BBC
BE×BOY COMICS

イイ関係で困ってる

町屋はとこ

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A LOVE AFFAIR BETWEEN MEN TAKES STRENGTH ♥

"IT'S TOO MUCH TROUBLE TO GO TO BED. LET'S DO IT HERE." WHEN TWO MEN HAVING AN AFFAIR ARE BUSY WORKING AT THE SAME COMPANY. THERE'S NO FREE TIME FOR SEX. EVEN THOUGH THEY'RE ALWAYS TOGETHER. COOL ONOSAKA AND WILD OLD MAN (?) TOBA HAVE A FUN AND EROTIC RELATIONSHIP. IT'S GOOD BUT WHAT EXACTLY IS IT? CAN IT CONTINUE? WHERE IS IT GOING?

ALSO, A LIBRARIAN IS PURSUED BY A STUDENT 10 YEARS HIS JUNIOR.

A COLLECTION OF LOVE STORIES DEPICTING MEN WHO ARE STRONG TO THE CORE ♥

BBC

イイ関係で困ってる

町屋はとこ

Libre

町屋はとこのコミックス
大好評発売中

ねかせないで
恋とは呼べない①～③(原作／榎田尤利)

また あした
社長と秘書、愛の証明

SCANNED,
TRANSLATED,
AND EDITED
BY ANON

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NOT FOR SALE

PLEASE SUPPORT
THE CREATOR BY
PURCHASING
MACHIYA
HATOKO'S
MANGA IF YOU
ARE ABLE TO.

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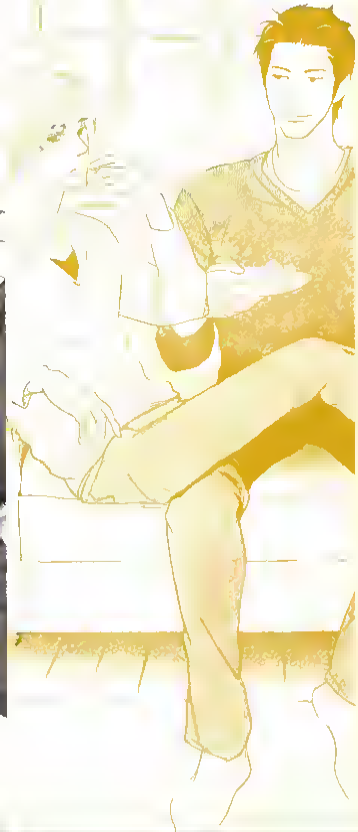
HATOKO MACHIYA

I CAN'T THINK OF OF ANY ILLUSTRATIONS OTHER THAN YAKINORI...

THE FIREWORKS ARE FROM PHOTOS TAKEN IN NAGAOKA.

IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME SINCE THE EARLY SHORT STORIES WERE PUBLISHED, I'M DUMPING THEM ON YOU LIKE A NEIGHBOR WITH A BUMPER CROP.



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THIS GOOD RELATIONSHIP BOTHERS ME
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ishiyu
イイ関係で
THIS GOOD RELATIONSHIP
困ってる
...BOTHERS ME <PART ONE>

I'M BACK
UM
WELCOME BACK
TAP TAP
CLINK

DON'T JUST STAND THERE IN THE DOOR.
It's distracting.
THE PRESIDENT?
AT LUNCH WITH KANEKO-SAN.
HMM, YOU'RE COVERING THE PHONES?
HEY!
I DID NOT REQUEST A SHOULDER MASSAGE!
NOW, NOW, IS THAT ANY WAY TO TREAT A VISITOR? ♡

ALONE TOGETHER IN THE OFFICE AT LUNCHTIME, SHOULDN'T WE TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS RARE CHANCE?
IDI---!
RUB
Chance for Tohoru
RUB
I'M TRYING TO WORK HERE!
ungh...
OH, YOU LIKE IT THERE?
HEH, FEELING THAT EVEN THROUGH YOUR SWEATER?
THIS SPOT?
PAD!
AHH--
HOW ABOUT HERE, THROUGH YOUR SHIRT? OR IS DIRECT CONTACT WITH YOUR SKIN BETTER?
HEY, ANSWER ME
WHAT, YOU CAN'T HEAR ME?

WE'RE BACK!
<PUNCH>
THIS ...
...IS SEXUAL HARASSMENT, OLD MAN!!
Was lunch good?
Yeah. ♡
Bring me along next time.
Don't touch me.
<SLAP>
I ENVY YOUR CLOSE FRIENDSHIP.
IT ISN'T THAT AT ALL, PRESIDENT!
AT IT AGAIN WITH THAT PLAYFUL RELATIONSHIP OF YOURS?
I KNEW THIS GUY WAS GAY.
Scary

I THOUGHT TO MYSELF IT WAS CRAZY TO SLEEP WITH SOMEONE I HAD TO FACE EVERY DAY IN THAT SMALL COMPANY
AT FIRST I WASN'T GOING TO GET INTO THIS KIND OF RELA-TIONSHIP.
...HOW FAR DOES IT STRETCH?
THIS BEARD...
CAN YOU DOUBLE YOUR LEVEL OF DIRTY OLD MAN FOR THE ROUGH OUTER NEIGHBOR-HOODS?
BUT...
PULL IT AND SEE.
YOU WANT TO RUIN MY POPULARITY WITH ARTISTS?
NOW DON'T PULL IT ALL OUT!
SCUFF
I DON'T WANT IT SCRAPING MY DICK.

IF YOU WANT TO, WHY NOT SAY YOU WANT TO?
SAME WITH YOU.
IF THERE'S SOMETHING YOU WANT, JUST COME RIGHT OUT WITH IT.
YOURS TOO
I GUESS THIS HALF-HARD DICK HERE SPEAKS FOR ITSELF
WELL, HERE YOU GO
AH!

. . I'VE ACCIDENTALLY BECOME ADDICTED TO THIS RELATIONSHIP

I KNEW IT, OVER-TIME
IS VERY UNPRE-DICT-ABLE
OVER-TIME AGAIN TODAY
EVEN THOUGH OUR WORK
I MEAN, WORKING TOGETHER, SLEEPING TOGETHER
I WONDER IF IT'S JUST TOO EASY
OVERTIME FOREVER
<tug>
GEH!
Can I go on like this?
whew
WHERE DO WOMEN FIND ANY FREE TIME? WHAT A PAIN
WHAT THE FUCK ARE YOU DOING!?
YOU LOOKED BORED!
Trying to kill me!?

IT MUST BE A CHALLENGE TO STAY SMOOTH
WE'RE ONLY GOING TO YOUR PLACE TO EAT AND HAVE SEX
Cheerful thoughts
OH, NOT SATISFIED WITH THAT?
HE SHAVED LIKE I WANTED
IT'S BEEN SO LONG SINCE YOU'VE GOTTEN OFF WORK AT YOUR REGULAR TIME YOU SHOULD BE MORE CHEERFUL.
I GUESS I DON'T REALLY HAVE A CHOICE
THERE'S NO WAY I'M TELLING HIM THAT, THOUGH!
His over confidence is already almost at super 2G
He probably wouldn't like to hear it
I'M TOTALLY SATISFIED I LIKE GOING OVER THERE AND HE ALWAYS MAKES MY FAVORITE FOODS
WELL,
IF MY PLACE AND MY HOME COOKING BOTHER YOU SO MUCH, DON'T COME OVER.

COME ON,
I WAS EVEN GOING TO MAKE APPLE TEMPURA TODAY.
APPLE TEMPURA
FAVORITE FOOD
THERE'S ONE FOR ME, PICK OUT ENOUGH FOR YOU.
The total is ¥2340
CAN YOU REALLY EAT ALL THOSE!?
OH I'LL EAT THEM, I'LL EAT THEM.
AH,
IF YOU WOULD,
EARTH-FRIENDLY
STAMP CARD

HOW LONG CAN YOU LAUGH ABOUT THIS!?
<BONK>
ゴン
I've probably accumulated ¥100 in discounts!
¥1 IN 100 IS ABOUT ONE DOLLAR
WELL, YOU REALLY...
...DON'T SEEM LIKE THE "GREEN" TYPE
ALTHOUGH, AFTER ALL, YOU AND THE PRESIDENT DID JUST LAUNCH THE ENVIRONMENTAL ADVERTISING CAMPAIGN TOGETHER
IT CRACKS ME UP EVERY TIME I WITNESS IT
I MEAN, THE CONTRAST IS AMUSING
THE CONTRAST, HUH?

HUH!?
what are you talking about? ;;
SO YOU BETTER WATCH OUT.
YOU SOMETIMES SHOW DIFFERENT SIDES TOO.
WELL, THERE'S PLENTY OF ROOM IN YOUR BED.
YOU'RE STAYING OVER TONIGHT, RIGHT?

WELL, IT'S NOT SO DIFFERENT FROM TOUCHING ANYWHERE ELSE
NO
NO
HMM? YOU MEAN IS IT EXTRA-SENSITIVE?
DON'T YOU FEEL ANYTHING HERE?
TOUGO-KUN, YOU'RE REALLY SENSITIVE, AREN'T YOU?
PICH
NGH
I DIDN'T EVEN LIKE IT AT FIRST
ahh
BUT SINCE YOU WOULDN'T STOP PLAYING WITH THEM —
YOU SHOT ALL OVER YOUR BELLY
ah..
ah..
DID YOU ALREADY COME JUST BY BEING TOUCHED HERE?

YOU, YOU'RE PISSING ME OFF!
TOBA, TODAY IT'S YOUR TURN!
ARE YOU READY?
I'LL CAREFULLY DO MY BEST TO TURN THIS INTO A RESPECTABLE EROGENOUS ZONE!
FLICK FLICK
SOUNDS LIKE FUN
DID I TRAIN YOU THOROUGHLY?
IT'S MY FAULT?

LICK
HOW'S THIS POSITION?
ISN'T THIS BETTER FOR YOU TOO?
SINCE THERE'S BETTER ACCESS FOR TOUCHING AND LICKING
I mean
UNGH
THIS IS A PRETTY NICE VIEW.
AMAZING! LEAKING SO MUCH

You're definitely feeling it
...HIS IS GETTING LONGER TOO
SHUT UP!
BUT...
SLURP
SLURP
RUFFLE
RUFFLE
I LIKE RUNNING MY FINGERS THROUGH THESE BRISTLES.
SNEAK
SLINK

NO WAY
JUST YOUR FINGERS?
SUCK
SUCK
NUDGE

I THINK I CAN TAKE IT IF YOU
SLIDE IT IN SLOWLY
ah
GOTCHA
FEEL IT JUST GOING IN?
CAN YOU TELL I'M IN A LITTLE BIT?
AHH
NGH...
G.ENCH.
SLP

ah...
ah...
IS IT ALRIGHT WHEN I GO IN ALL THE WAY?
HOW IS IT FEELING?
AH...
UNGH...
TIGHTEN
PUSH
PUSH
<THRUST>
ah
IT'S NO GOOD, DON'T FORCE IT IN
ah

<CREAK>
IS THIS BETTER?
Hang on.
AH...
WHAT A CRYBABY.
SQUISH
SLIDE
SQUISH
AHH IT'S
AMAZING GREAT
Kiss
IT'S NICE TO HEAR THAT YOU'RE TURNED ON, TOUGO.
DAMMIT I SHOULDN'T TELL YOU THAT

IT'S REALLY ANNOYING...
TOBA FUCK ME SOME MORE
ah...
ah...
IT BUGS ME, IT BUGS ME
...BUT IT'S IMPOSSIBLE NOT TO LIKE HIM.
IT BOTHERS ME

COLD!

HUMAN HOT WATER BOTTLE
人間湯たんぽ
ahh...
HEAVEN!
How annoying!
Well, you shouldn't have gone naked
JUST WENT TO THE BATHROOM
Hurry up and let me in
THE HALLWAY IS FREEZING!
IT'S ONLY WARM IN HERE
ENERGY CONSERVATION♡
RUFFLE
RUFFLE
HUGGLE
HUGGLE

イイ関係で困ってる／END

THIS GOOD RELATIONSHIP BOTHERS ME <PART TWO>

いい関係で困ってる

...
I miss his smiling face
OH, THE PRESIDENT WILL BE BACK SOON.
He's on an overseas business trip.
augh!!
THE DESIGNS HAVEN'T BEEN FINALIZED YET
BUT I THOUGHT THE ADVERTISING CAMPAIGN ITSELF WAS POSTPONED FOR THE TIME BEING OR SOMETHING
Eh—
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING, THAT'S COLD!
IT'S GETTING KIND OF CHILLY, WHERE'S YOUR SCARF?
Oh, right!
I FORGOT TO PICK IT UP, IT'S PROBABLY ROTTING AWAY AT THE CLEANERS
Yeah?

AUNTIE REPORT
BUT SATOU-SAN WAS TELLING ME...
A GRADE SCHOOLER GAVE HIM A TINY KITTEN
HE ASKED ME FOR A BOX,
AND SINCE THE KITTEN WAS SHIVERING A LITTLE, ONOSAKA-KUN...
I'll save it then!
...IT'S SUCH A TINY LITTLE THING!
fu fu fu
It settled right in!
So that's what happened.
<SOFT 'N' FLUFFY>

I SAID IT'S COLD!
IT'S NOT FUNNY, SO CUT IT OUT!
AREN'T YOU TURNED ON EVEN THOUGH IT'S COLD?
IDIOT, WHY ASK IF YOU KNEW AL-- READY?
TOBA
HM? STILL COLD?

IT'S KINDA CRAMPED
It'll be fine!
ON THE FLOOR?
Sigh!
AH
HURRY UP
LET'S DO IT HERE
IT'S TOO MUCH TROUBLE TO GO TO BED,
OUR RELATIONSHIP CONTINUES AS USUAL
WE HAPPEN TO WORK TOGETHER, BUT THIS OLD MAN SHOULD BE FIRED FOR TURNING ME GAY
WE'RE STILL BUSY AND DON'T HAVE MUCH FREE TIME
THAT'S THE STORY OF OUR RELATIONSHIP SO FAR

IT'S A SURPRISINGLY COMFORTABLE AND EASYGOING RELATIONSHIP
I DON'T WANT IT TO END
OUCH
OWWW
What!?
You're asking for trouble!
Well?
ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND YEN
Oh!
SORRY!
IT'S DIRTY NOW!!
ACTUALLY THIS IS WASH-ABLE
OH, THANK YOU!!
Your assistance is greatly appreciated.
HEY, WHO DO YOU THINK YOU'RE FOOLING WITH THAT POLITE TALK?
WHO, ME?
Thank you so much for allowing [illegible] use it! HAVING THIS WAS BETTER THAN NOTHING, THOUGH
Toha's coat.
I TOLD YOU WE SHOULDN'T
Ugh, I fucking ache all over.

NOT LONG AGO, I FULFILLED A REQUEST OF YOURS, SO NOW IT'S MY TURN
RIGHT?
AT A TIME LIKE THIS, MUSCLE STRENGTH MUST BE RESTORED TO THE BODY
HUH?
I have no idea what you're talking about.
ALLOW ME TO WASH AWAY MY FATIGUE AND DIRTINESS IT'S TIME FOR A SOOTHING BUBBLE BATH
WHOA!
Chills...
CUT IT OUT, OLD MAN!
Why was "time" in hiragana?
I'LL WASH YOUR BACK. COME IN WHEN IT'S FULL.
I provide a solid service.
SCRATCH SCRATCH
I'M A FIRST-RATE OLD MAN!
WHEN IT'S COLD, I RUN A HOT BATH
WELL, ABOUT OUR FEELINGS
WE PUT UP WITH EACH OTHER'S QUIRKS, BUT OF COURSE WE'RE NOT CRAZY IN LOVE OR ANYTHING
BUT IT'S COMFORTABLE, UNLIKE MERE SEX-FRIENDS
Lucky me, Tora's scrumptious cooking!
Quick, give me a plate.
YEAH, I'D SAY IT'S A GOOD RELA--TIONSHIP
Alright already! Oh...yum!

<T/N WHEN TORA SAID IT WAS TIME FOR A BATH "TIME" WAS IN HIRAGANA. IT'S WHY (MYSTERY)>

Hm~
THE PRESIDENT'S SUITCASE!
I guess that means...
BUT SPEAKING OF GOOD RELATIONSHIPS, SOME PEOPLE HAVE BETTER
PRE--
HE'S BACK FROM HIS OVERSEAS BUSINESS TRIP!
THE PRESIDENT IS AN AMAZING GUY
SOMEHOW I FEEL LIKE I WOULD BE INTRUDING ON THOSE TWO
WHY AM I HIDING?
Huh!?

<WORSHIP>
あこがれ
HE'S LIKE A GENIUS, BUT HE ALSO ACTUALLY WORKS AMAZINGLY HARD
So much respect
HE FLIES ALL OVER THE WORLD, KEEPING TRACK OF WHAT'S GOING ON IN THE FIELD
FURTHERMORE, HIS EXTRAORDINARY COMMUNICATION SKILLS ASSURE HIS SUCCESS IN BUSINESS
FLUENT IN LOCAL LANGUAGES
PERFECT POISE
POPULAR WITH MEN AND WOMEN OF ALL AGES
HE'S AT THE CENTER OF A PERSONAL NETWORK AND RECEIVES SUPPORT THROUGH CONNECTIONS IN VARIOUS FIELDS
ALMOST ALL OF OUR ENVIRONMENTAL ADVERTISING IDEAS AND PLANNING ORIGINATE WITH OUR PRESIDENT
HIS APPROACH TO WORK IS QUITE DIFFERENT FROM THE PRESIDENT'S, BUT HE DOES HIS SHARE IN HIS OWN WAY
THAT'S WHY THE COMPANY THAT TOBA LAUNCHED WITH THE PRESIDENT IS SO AWESOME

YOU'RE AMAZING
IT'S TOO BAD YOU HAVE TO DO ALL THAT TRAVELING ON YOUR OWN
I'M NOT TIRED, IT WAS FUN!
YOU MUST BE TIRED
Out of the country more than a month.
So, well, I respect Tohru too...
...at work, that is
OH, THAT DOESN'T MATTER THERE ARE NO LIMITATIONS WHEN I'M ON MY OWN
THOSE TWO ARE CONNECTED IN A TRUSTING RELATIONSHIP WITH STRONG TIES
WE'RE FORTUNATE TO HAVE SUCH A GREAT STAFF
THEY'RE ALL WILLING TO PITCH IN, EACH IN THEIR OWN WAY
Sano-san is a solid worker. Yamashi-san is friendly. Owadaka-kun has a promising future.
THE COMPANY SURE DOES MISS HAVING YOU AROUND THOUGH
I KNOW EVERYTHING'S FINE
BECAUSE YOU'RE HERE IN JAPAN

BUT YOU HAVE SO MUCH PERSON-ALITY
And everyone wanted to get drunk with you
BREATHE
zzz
LOOK AT THAT
YOU REALLY WERE TIRED AFTER ALL
SEEING THESE TWO, I DON'T THINK
...I COULD EVER BE IN A RELA-TIONSHIP LIKE THEIRS, NO MATTER HOW HARD I TRIED

I'M SURE YOU'RE ALWAYS IN DEMAND, SAIJO-SAN
WHAT'S SO? THE CONSULTATION ABOUT THIS TIME?
That was sudden
I'M BARELY SCRAPING BY
HAVE YOUR PLACE GIVE ME MORE WORK.
It's been a while.
GOOD TO SEE YOU!
IS THE DESIGN BUSINESS KEEPING YOU BUSY?
C'mon, spill it. I'm a good listener
IT'S NOT, HUH? SO WHY HAVE YOU INVITED ME OUT DRINKING, ONOSAKA? TELL ME ALL ABOUT IT.
Umm...
WELL IT'S NOT EXACTLY A CONSULTATION.
WHAT AM I DOING? WHY DID I TELL HIM ALL THAT?
I drank quickly today.
AND SO ?
SO BECAUSE OF THAT, I GET KIND OF AN UNPLEASANT FEELING.
JUST A LITTLE BITTER, OR ENVIOUS...

FURTHERMORE, HE'S GAY LIKE TOBA, SO I CAN BE MYSELF AND SPEAK OPENLY WITH HIM.
AREN'T THINGS GOING WELL BETWEEN YOU AND TOBA?
WE'VE JUST NEVER HAD THAT KIND OF RELATIONSHIP.
IT'S NOT THAT THINGS AREN'T GOING WELL.
SAIJO-SAN HAS KNOWN THE PRESIDENT AND TOBA FOR YEARS, AND IS FAMILIAR WITH OUR CIRCUMSTANCES
MUNCH MUNCH
YEAH, THOSE TWO GET ALONG WELL.
Oh, this dive is yummy.
heh heh
YEAH.
IS THAT RIGHT?
LET'S TALK ABOUT YOU INSTEAD, SAIJO-SAN!
We haven't this whole time.
TOBA AND I JUST HAVE A TEMPORARY, CASUAL THING.
AND HE THINKS NOTHING OF FOOLING AROUND WITH OTHER GUYS.
BUT THE POINT IS THAT YOU TRUST EACH OTHER, SO ISN'T IT THE SAME?
WHAT? IT'S COMPLETELY DIFFERENT!
HM, REALLY?
THAT MEANS YOU CAN FOOL AROUND TOO, ONOSAKA?
I GUESS SO...
BUT IT'S TOO MUCH TROUBLE.
LIKE, YOU WOULD NEVER LOOK TWICE AT ME
IT'S NOT THAT WAY AT ALL.
YOU SHOULD BE ABLE TO HAVE YOUR PICK OF THE LOT, SAIJO-SAN!
ME? OH, I DO ALRIGHT I GUESS.

ME!?
YOU'RE JUST MY TYPE!
Wrong! Wrong!
Ha ha ha
<SLAP SLAP>
THAT'S NOT TRUE
YOU'RE JUST DRUNK AND ADORABLE
HUUH!?
I'M NOT EVEN DRUNK! VERY
MAYBE A BIT? JUST A LITTLE?
I'M DRUNK
WELL, SO WHAT?
IT'S FUN TO
SPEND AN EVENING WITH SAIJO-SAN
UHH... WHAT?

MORN-ING!?
Ow...
ONOSAKA ..IT'S MORNING
I have to go.
THANK GOODNESS YOU FINALLY WOKE UP
And where am I!?
HUH?
I HAD A LITTLE TOO MUCH TO DRINK MY EYES
OH SORRY,
about last night?
DOES IT STILL HURT?
BY THE WAY, ABOUT LAST NIGHT,
It... hurts?
I'm alright.
Huh?
I'm alright.
OK, I see
I NEED TO RUN A FEW ERRANDS
ARE YOU READY TO GET UP?
I'M IN PEAK CONDITION!!
I I I'M FINE!
His finger is in my under-wear...
MY ASS!! WHY MY ASS!?
TUG
LET'S HAVE A LITTLE LOOK.

TEMPTING ME AGAIN TODAY, AREN'T YOU?
YOU WERE SO CUTE LAST NIGHT, TOO
TAKE YOUR TIME, ONOSAKA
I HAVE TO GET GOING
It's OK, it's OK, old guys have delicate sensibilities, too Ha ha ha!
N-- No Sorry.
PEAK CONDITION, huh? HUH? WAHAHA! WHAT IS IT? FEELING SHY?
Ah ha ha ha ha!
Pfft
Last night?
SLAM
JUST WHAT...

...THE FUCK HAPPENED LAST NIGHT?
WAIT
WHY SHOULD I GIVE A CRAP?
THE WHOLE IDEA IS THAT I'M FREE!
THERE ARE NO RULES THAT SAY MEN HAVE TO BE FAITHFUL TO EACH OTHER
IT'S COOL!
I'M FREE!
SAITO-SAN AND I JUST FOOLED AROUND I MEAN, THIS ISN'T GOING TO BE SOME HEAVY RELATIONSHIP
WHY ARE YOU DANCING?
WHOA!
.....
I DON'T REMEMBER A THING, BUT FROM THE SITUATION IT SEEMS
THAT MEANINGFUL GRIN ON SAIJO-SAN'S FACE
AND THIS WEIRD PAIN IN MY HIPS
RUB RUB
WHOA WHOA!
WHAT DO I DO!?
THAT'S IT!
I KNOW WHAT HAPPENED!

<BA-DUMP BA-DUMP>
I'M... I'M UNCOMFORTABLE GUYS DON'T HAVE TO BE FAITHFUL, BUT I DON'T KNOW, JUST LAST NIGHT...
YOUR VOICE OUT OF THE BLUE STARTLED ME!
ARE YOU DONE WITH WORK? COME HANG OUT WITH ME FOR A WHILE
I'LL TELL HIM I NEED TO HURRY HOME
Yeah
EHM, ERR...
UH UM
COMING WITH ME?
WHAT, YOU HAVE SOME ERRAND?
NO, NOT EXACTLY
THE WORST AT TELLING LIES
My mouth messed that up
TODAY'S YOUR BIRTHDAY, RIGHT?
HUH?
I SHOULD HAVE TOLD HIM I HAVE PLANS!
DAMN, MISSED MY CHANCE
WHAT?
DON'T YOU WANT TO EAT CAKE?

WHAT? SOMEHOW, MY MOUTH SAID THAT ALL ON ITS OWN.
EVEN YOU, AFTER ALL...
I WASN'T REALLY PLANNING TO EAT CAKE WITH YOU, OR THINKING YOU WOULD GIVE ME A GIFT AND ACTUALLY,
I'M COLD, AND I'M NOT FEELING WELL..
TH--- THAT'S ALRIGHT. BESIDES,
THAT BOTHERS ME. IT KIND OF BOTHERS ME, SOMEHOW
We can go to that cake shop if you'd rather.
HE DUTIFULLY REMEMBERED MY BIRTHDAY
I DIDN'T REALLY MEAN TO SOUND SO BLUNT...
...IT'S FINE TO DO IT WITH OTHER GUYS,
YOU'LL GET TIRED OF AN IDIOT LIKE ME
NO, THAT'S ---
ARE YOU TRYING TO SAY YOU'RE BORED WITH ME?
UH UMM...

Hey!
<SHOVE>
Ungh!
?
<SHOVE>
Hey!
SO SORRY. I SUDDENLY FEEL SICK.
He—
Hey!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING? WATCH IT!

GUMPLE
OOPS
ROLL
TOBA
PULL
happy birthday

I'M...
IT'S GETTING KIND OF CHILLY.
SO SORRY I SUDDENLY FEEL SICK
...SUCH AN ASSHOLE.
HE EVEN BOUGHT APPLES. HE WAS GOING TO MAKE MY FAVORITE, APPLE TEMPURA

THIS EASYGOING RELATIONSHIP --- HOW LONG HAVE I BEEN TAKING IT FOR GRANTED?
A GOOD RELATIONSHIP REQUIRES EFFORT AND CARE.
I HAVEN'T CONTRIBUTED ANYTHING CONSTRUCTIVE.
RING
RING
RING
WHY ISN'T HE ANSWERING?
Shit.
SQUEEZE
HAVE BEEN IMPORTANT TO EACH OTHER SINCE THEY WERE STUDENTS.
BECAUSE YOU'RE HERE IN JAPAN.
THEIR RELATIONSHIP NOW IS A BUSINESS PARTNERSHIP
EVEN THOUGH TOBA AND THE PRESIDENT
ARE YOU IN THERE?
TOBA!
IF YOU'RE THERE, SAY SOMETHING!
I WAS JUST JEALOUS.
I KIND OF FORGOT...
...HOW SPOILED I'VE BEEN.

I BET THAT'S IT!
WOULD HE HAVE
THAT'S THE FIRST TIME I'VE EVER SEEN TOBA ANGRY
Ohh
No answer
He's not home?
HE WAS UPSET, SO...
...TOBA PROBABLY WENT TO TALK TO HIS SENPAI.
Like he does when something goes wrong at work.
TOBA, I WILL DO MY DAMNEDEST
...TO DEFEND MY RELATIONSHIP WITH YOU!
HMP
What about him? Didn't he leave already?
HE'S NOT ANSWERING HIS CELL, AND WHEN I WENT TO HIS APARTMENT HE WASN'T THERE. CAN YOU THINK OF ANYWHERE ELSE HE MIGHT BE?
HUFF
HUFF
WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT TOBA!?
PRESIDENT!!

UM, ONOSAKA-KUN?
.....
PRESIDENT, TIME OFF
A WEEK...?
WH-- WHEN IS HE COMING BACK?
HOKKAIDO!?
LET'S SEE, I THINK HE'LL BE GONE ABOUT A WEEK?
HOKKAIDO
DO YOU KNOW WHERE HE WENT?
AND TOBA RUSHED OFF TO GO SEE HIM
A CLIENT CALLED A LITTLE WHILE AGO.
IS SOMETHING WRONG?
PLEASE LET ME HAVE A LITTLE TIME OFF!
HUH?
I NEED TO MAKE A SHORT TRIP TO HOKKAIDO!
JUST A MINUTE!!
I'D LIKE YOU TO BRING ME SOME ARAMAKI SALMON!
It's primed
<T/N SALT-CURED ARAMAKI SALMON IS A SPECIALTY OF HOKKAIDO>
<SIGH>

MAYBE I STILL CAN CATCH HIM
HUFF
HUFF
I SEE THE LAST FLIGHT HAS BEEN CANCELLED DUE TO BAD WEATHER IN HOKKAIDO
THAT'S WHAT THE PRESIDENT TOLD ME BUT...
TOBA RUSHED TO CATCH THE LAST FLIGHT OF THE DAY, BUT IF YOU DON'T MAKE THAT ONE
...YOU CAN GO IN THE MORNING
Good luck!
A GOOD RELATIONSHIP CAN GROW STALE QUICKLY
AND AS FRESH AS POSSIBLE
WHOA!
出発
DEPARTURE
FEELINGS MUST BE KEPT HOT
<CRASH>

Whaa!
Ha ha ha!
I'm fine, I'm fine.
HEY, ARE YOU ALRIGHT!?
I ACTUALLY MANAGED TO RUN INTO HIM
ISN'T YOUR PLANE ABOUT TO TAKE OFF?
OH, THERE'S A BLIZZARD IN HOKKAIDO
I TOLD THE CLIENT I'D GO HOME AND TRY AGAIN IN THE MORNING
YOU'RE COMING BACK IN THE MORNING? WOULDN'T IT BE BETTER JUST TO STAY HERE?
Ack!

I WAS GIVEN SOME TIME OFF
FOR A TRIP TO HOKKAIDO
TIME OFF?
WHY ARE YOU HERE?
I WAS FEELING BAD ABOUT THE WAY WE LEFT THINGS
But I feel better now.

I'M SORRY ABOUT EARLIER.
AND THANK YOU FOR THIS.
Since I ran all the way here...
Umm,
BUT IT'S SOAKING WITH SWEAT
Sorry.
THE APPLES ARE STILL ROLLING AROUND!
Should we eat them quickly, before they get mushy?
Whew
YOU DIDN'T HAVE TO BRING THE APPLES
<THUNK>
HM?

I'D LIKE TO EAT SOME WITH YOU
THAT TEMPURA YOU MAKE...
IT'S GOOD WHEN YOU MAKE IT
YOU JUST WANT TO EAT MY APPLES?
I'D LIKE TO EAT SOME WITH YOU, TOO. HEY...
Even glue couldn't fix me.
It happens every time I talk to you.
Seriously. Some friends!
Ha ha ha!
You!
DON'T MAKE FUN OF ME!!
WE ENDED UP STAYING IN A HOTEL BY THE AIRPORT.

Ah, I just...
I'M SORRY ABOUT MY LITTLE TEMPER TANTRUM.
THIS LOOKS GOOD ON YOU
Mm. THANKS
SINCE WE'RE STAYING AT A HOTEL,
I CAN'T MAKE YOU TEMPURA
THAT'S ALRIGHT, YOU CAN MAKE IT NEXT TIME
BUT TODAY'S YOUR BIRTHDAY,
SO I BET YOU'RE FEELING BAD ABOUT IT
WHAT!?
YOU'RE USUALLY STRAIGHTFORWARD, SO I THOUGHT YOU LOST YOUR MIND
CLICK
BUT MY REACTION COULD HAVE BEEN BETTER

YOU DON'T NEED TO APOLOGIZE
WHEN YOU SAID YOU WERE TIRED OF ME, I SUDDENLY SAW RED
I MAY HAVE MENTIONED THAT
OR SOMETHING ABOUT DOING OTHER GUYS?
THAT'S NOT WHAT I SAID.
...DOESN'T MEAN WE'RE TIED TOGETHER, BUT I THOUGHT WE HAD AN UNDERSTANDING
OF COURSE JUST BECAUSE WE GET ALONG WELL.
YOU THINKING I WOULD DO THAT CAME AS A SHOCK, THAT'S ALL.
I...
...SLEPT WITH SAIJO-SAN.
UHH...
WHAT?
WELL... I DON'T REALLY REMEMBER WHAT HAPPENED.
OR KNOW EXACTLY HOW DRUNK I WAS, BUT THROUGH SOME KIND OF MOMENTUM I ENDED UP WITH HIM.
WHAT'S WRONG? ISN'T THE BATHTUB FILLING?
AH! Hide sweat from earlier...

EARLIER, WHEN I THOUGHT I HAD RUINED EVERYTHING,
I DISTINCTLY REALIZED—
Sigh
SOMETHING PUT ME IN A BAD MOOD, AND I WAS CONVINCED YOU DIDN'T PLAN ON BEING FAITHFUL
AND TOBA, YOU WERE MORE SHOCKED THAN I COULD HAVE IMAGINED.
MAYBE IT WOULD HAVE BETTER NOT TO SAY ANYTHING,
BUT I'M REALLY USELESS
I MEAN, THERE ARE OTHER IMPORTANT PEOPLE IN MY LIFE,
THIS RELATIONSHIP WITH YOU IS LIKE SOME KIND OF MIRACLE
BUT YOU'RE VERY IMPORTANT

WELL, I MEAN IT'S NOT LIKE PASSIONATE LOVE OR ANYTHING!
SPECIAL IS SPECIAL, BUT I'M NOT ABOUT TO RUSH ANYWHERE TO CHASE AFTER YOU.
ACTUALLY, ISN'T IT AMAZING THAT I RAN INTO YOU? CRAZY COINCIDENCE, RIGHT!?
Fate!? Like we're soul friends or something
WHAT, ADMITTING THAT YOU HURRIED AFTER ME IS TOO EMBARRASSING?
YES YES, IT IS.
WHOA
HEY!
YOU'RE IMPORTANT TO ME TOO
THAT'S WHY I'M WITH YOU
WE'RE GOOD TOGETHER, AREN'T WE?

AS A MAN WHO WAS UNFAITHFUL, OF COURSE...
..I FEEL NASTY.
HUH?
YEAH
SO, I'M SORRY.
DO YOU? ARE YOU STILL IN ONE PIECE?
HURRY UP AND TAKE THESE OFF.
THAT'S IT, LET ME TAKE A LOOK.
I'LL SEE WHAT THE EVIDENCE LOOKS LIKE
GROSS.
REALLY YOU'RE THE NASTY ONE, AREN'T YOU?
TURN YOUR ASS TOWARD ME.

IT'S STILL QUITE LOVELY
WELL, NEVER MIND
AHH
IDIOT,
DON'T LICK THERE
WHAT KIND OF PLAY DID YOU GET UP TO?
THERE'S SOME BRUISING HERE
U U
I-- I DON'T KNOW!
Is it torn or some-thing?
WH-- WHAT IS IT!?
HMM?
AH
AHH
LICK
LICK
STOP, I SAI--
AHH!
HEY...
LET ME DO YOU TOO.

I KNOW HOW TO DO IT JUST RIGHT, SINCE YOU TRAINED ME SO WELL. NOW HURRY UP AND PUT IT IN,
BEFORE I DRAIN YOUR EQUIPMENT DRY, YOU DIRTY OLD MAN.
IS IT TASTY?
NGH
MM
SASSY AS USUAL. WATCH THAT MOUTH OF YOURS.
WHY DON'T YOU TRY ASKING NICELY?
NO WAY!
YOU ALWAYS HAVE A RAGING BONER!
IT'S JUST THAT WE DON'T HAVE MUCH TIME
sllllgh
EVEN THOUGH I TOOK SUCH CARE TO TRAIN YOU, I'LL JUST LET MY DICK SHRIVEL UP.
WHAT!?
WELL THEN, I GUESS WE'LL STOP RIGHT HERE

I WANT TO DEVOUR YOU
SHIT
HURRY UP AND GET IN ME
I BET YOU CAN DO IT ALL ON YOUR OWN IF YOU TRY
Give an old man a nice surprise
Shut up
CUT IT OUT WITH THAT BLATHER
ALL SET HERE?
OKAY, OKAY.
NOW HOLD ON TIGHT
NGH

YOU LIKE THAT?
AAH
DAMN
AH...!
UNGH
SQUCK
SQUSH
...WE FIT TO-SETHER SO WELL
REALLY
COM-PARED TO WHO EXACTLY?
TO ANYONE ELSE
ANYONE
...AHH...IT'S GREAT
AHH!

I'M SORRY, BUT MY HEART WAS COMPLETELY SET ON SOME ARAMAKI SALMON!
I HAD TOO MUCH GOING ON AT WORK
IT WOULD HAVE BEEN NICE TO TAKE A TRIP TO HOKKAIDO, THOUGH
YOU CERTAINLY ARE A HARD WORKER, ONOSAKA-KUN
You can mail-order it, you know
HE'S REALLY CRAVING IT
I THOUGHT THAT MIGHT BE THE CASE
Yay! Welcome
H--HOW...
WHAT? I DIDN'T EVEN MENTION IT TO YOU!
NO,
BUT NISHINA, IT'S ONE OF YOUR FAVORITES, ISN'T IT?
I REALLY, REALLY LIKE IT!
HOW LOVEY-DOVEY
新巻鮭
ARAMAKI SALMON
OH, WELCOME BACK!
TOBA!?

Oh, everyone's here!
GOOD EVE-NING,
THANK YOU FOR ALWAYS TAKING CARE OF ME
.....
Ha ha ha!
TOBA, YOU REALLY WORK FAST, DON'T YOU?
WHAT? ISN'T THAT WHAT YOU SAID?
THE PRESIDENT
WHO TOLD YOU I'D BE GONE A WEEK?
WHAT HAP-PENED
YOU'RE BACK SO SOON!?
A WEEK?"
That was no work-hard-ship
Huh?
HEY, AFTER WHAT HAP-PENED, IS YOUR REAR END ALRIGHT?
THAT NIGHT WE WENT OUT, YOU GOT DRUNK AND MADE QUITE A SHOWY EXIT, FALLING DOWN THE STAIRS
I RIGHT ON YOUR BOTTOM.
KNOW YOU WERE WOR-RIED, BUT...
DO EN-LIGHTEN US-
WELL...
MISUN-DER-STAND?
Ohhh,
I GET IT, YOU MISUN-DERSTAND! THAT EX-PLAINS IT!
.....
HUH? WHAT'S WITH THIS ATMO-SPHERE?

Ha!
TOUGO... YOU...
YOU JUST FELL FLAT ON YOUR ASS! That's all!
TOOK HIM LONG ENOUGH HE DEFINITELY HAD FUN TEASING ME
THERE YOU GO! I HOPE THAT CLEARS UP YOUR MISUNDERSTANDING!
WHAT, IT'S NOT LIKE I KNEW!
BASTARD YOU DIDN'T EVEN KNOW WHAT HAPPENED TO YOUR OWN BODY!
S— SO WHAT? YOU JUST DO WHATEVER YOU WANT TO IT ANYWAY!
WHAT ARE YOU TALK-
OHH...IT'S NOTHING TO BE ASHAMED OF!
Love, that is!
MUMBLE MUMBLE
Evidence
PARTNERS SHOULDERING A PALANQUIN TOGETHER
OH, I'D CALL IT "LOVERS" FOR SURE!
MMHMM, EVEN SPENDING THE NIGHT TOGETHER, DOES THAT FEEL LIKE "BUDDIES" TO YOU?
NAH, WE'RE NOT REALLY IN LOVE---
PARTNERS WORKING TOGETHER
C'mon, it's obvious
WHEN IT COMES TO NIGHT FISHING, TWO RODS ARE BETTER THAN ONE, AM I RIGHT?
YOU COULD SAY IT'S "COMPLICATED"

<T/N "SHOULDERING A PALANQUIN" INVOLVES POLES, FRONT/REAR PARTNERS, RYTHMIC ACTION, ETC. GET IT?>

I THOUGHT ONOSAKA MIGHT BE WORRYING OR SUFFERING IN SOME WAY, SINCE I GOT TANGLED UP IN YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH HIM, SO MY CONSCIENCE WAS UNEASY
But I see there's no problem.
I JUST CAME TO SEE HOW EVERYTHING WAS GOING.
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE, SAIJO?
THIS MAN IS QUITE A BIT OLDER THAN YOU, ISN'T HE?
What's with the dirty jokes?
IT'S TOUCHING.
NOW YOU KNOW WHY I CAME.
When did you do that?
Come on, try a little!
Now is a good time to quit working and dig into this Aramaki salmon that I cooked up with loving care!
It's quite a dish!
WELL, I GUESS EVERYONE GETS A LITTLE JEALOUS OF PEOPLE WHO ACHIEVE THE IMPOSSIBLE.
Hmm...
Oh Not you?
END

DEEP IN
WINTER

LIKE, HE WORE SHORT SLEEVES EVEN IN THE WINTER, AND HAD HIS HAIR CUT ONLY ABOUT ONCE A YEAR
SINCE I WAS LITTLE I'VE WORRIED ABOUT THIS SPACE CADET KID WHO NEVER HAD ANYONE ELSE TO CARE ABOUT HIM
I WAS TOO THICKHEADED TO UNDERSTAND THE DANGER OF BEING FRIENDS WITH A KID WHO WAS BULLIED
..EVER REALLY NEEDED SOMETHING..
I WAS SIMPLY WORRIED THAT IF THE KID
..HE WOULD JUST STIFFEN HIS SHOULDERS STUBBORNLY..
.. AND NOT SAY A WORD

THERE! THAT'S IT!
YOU CAN TELL BECAUSE THE ROOF IS ROUND.
The covering gives it that planetarium feeling!
...IS THERE A CHANCE? A CHANCE THAT A DATE UNDER THE ST...RRY SKIES COULD PUT HIM IN GOOD MOOD?
IF IT'S JUST THE TWO OF US...
THIS IS GOING TO BE GREAT!
I bet it's gloomy.
WHY WOULD PEOPLE STUCK ON EARTH WANT TO GO IN THERE?
Hurry up, I'm cold!
FLAIL FLAIL
YOW! I'LL STRIKE WITHOUT WARNING!
Daitarn

<T/N: REFERENCE TO ANIME "INVINCIBLE STEEL MAN DAITARN 3">

THE BEST THING IS, WE CAN GO FOR FREE!
THERE'S EVEN A SOUNDTRACK THAT TALKS ABOUT THE STARS.
I JUST FOUND OUT THAT MY UNCLE RUNS THE SHOWS THERE OR SOMETHING.
YEAH,
PLAN-ETARIUM?
FREE?
ON ONE CONDITION. WE HAVE TO HELP CLEAN THE PLACE.
heh
IT'LL BE RELAX-ING...
CLEA-
WHY WOULD YOU WANT TO DO THAT?
SHOULDN'T YOU BE STUDYING FOR YOUR EXAMS? instead of fooling around?
...WHICH WILL IMPROVE MY STUDYING,
AND THEN MAYBE I CAN DO BETTER ON THE TESTS!

Let's get this over with.
IT PROBABLY SOUNDS BORING TO HIM
heat
OKAY
WELL...
I'VE SEEN THIS SIDE OF HIM SINCE GR. DE SCHOOL.
I KNOW THE KINDS OF THINGS HISASHI LIKES.
SO IT SEEMS
THERE ARE OTHER PEOPLE HERE!?
tch!

SO THAT'S THE BOY YOU WERE TELLING ME ABOUT.
HE LOOKS LIKE HE MIGHT BE THE STUBBORN TYPE.
OH! OJISAN!
Hello ..
Ah!
WELCOME!
DID YOU BRING KADZUKI-KUN?
HE'S A GOOD KID REALLY.

THE KADZUKI FAMILY IS WELL-KNOWN IN THEIR NEIGHBORHOOD.

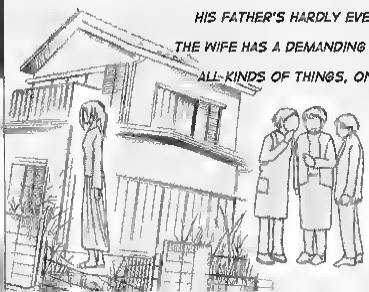
THEY DON'T EVEN BOTHER TO GIVE POLITE GREETINGS

HIS PARENTS NEVER GO TO THE COMMUNITY MEETINGS

HIS FATHER'S HARDLY EVER HOME

THE WIFE HAS A DEMANDING NATURE

ALL KINDS OF THINGS, ON AND ON



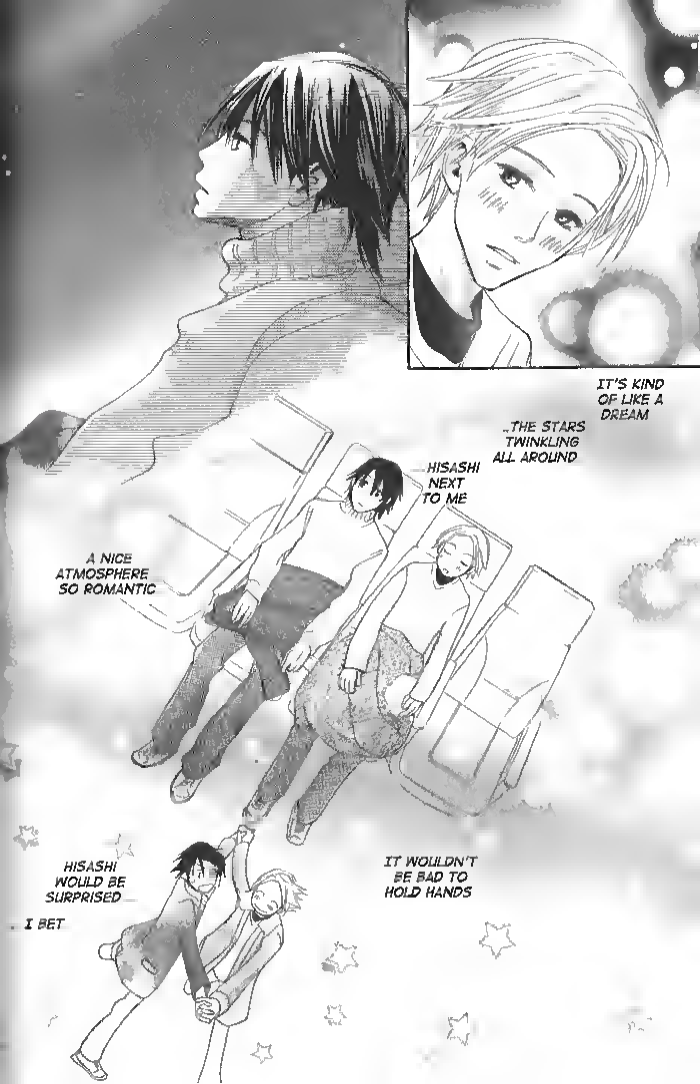
HE FILLED OUT AND GREW TALLER IN MIDDLE SCHOOL, THOUGH. NOBODY BULLIES HIM NOW.
THE BAS-TARD IS...
...WEIRDER THAN EVER
WELL, HE'S NEVER BEEN FRIENDLY,
TH--THINK SO?
BUT NOW THAT RIGID LOOK ON HIS FACE GIVES OFF A "STAY AWAY" VIBE
Me too, me too! Some-times you have to nag me.
HAYASHIDA, DON'T YOU THINK HE'D RESPOND IF YOU KEPT TRYING?
HUH? HE'S DEFINITELY NOT PISSED OFF!
I'M NOT SAYING IT'S HIS FAULT OR ANYTHING,
With the various things he's dealt with since he was a brat.
sigh
IT'S POINTLESS IF YOU'RE NOT PER-SISTENT.
BUT HE JUST SEEMS PISSED OFF.
HE'S NOT WEIRD...
IF YOU WEREN'T AROUND, I'D BE REALLY WORRIED ABOUT HIM.
THANKS TO YOU, THAT WEIRDO IS DOING ALRIGHT
Who would expect him to be like a small animal or a cute girl type? Pfff
IT SEEMS LIKE THAT GUY IS ONLY COMFORTABLE AROUND YOU, OKA

ARE YOU IN DAZE ON THE STAIRS? WATCH YOUR STEP.
HEY!
OH SORRY
...AND ME?
I'M NOT GOING ANYWHERE.
YOU FEELING OKAY?
HM?
whew
OH...
...THANKS. I'M ALRIGHT.
THERE ARE REALLY A LOT OF GREAT THINGS ABOUT HISASHI.
WE CAN SKIP THIS IF YOU'RE NOT FEELING WELL.

EVERYONE IS SCARED OF HIM,
BUT INSIDE HE'S REALLY CARING AND SWEET
CLATTER
Shit
CLATTER
Heh heh heh♡
ALTHOUGH IT BOTHERS ME THAT PEOPLE CALL HISASHI A WEIRDO,
I'M REALLY GLAD HE ONLY TALKS TO ME
I'M ALREADY HEAD-OVER-HEELS,
SO SEEING HIM WITH HIS GUARD DOWN LIKE THIS HAS MY HEART POUNDING MADLY

HISASHI
...I WONDER IF I'M BEING UNFAIR TO THIS GUY
I REALLY HOPE HISASHI ...WILL ONLY BE FRIENDS WITH ME
IS THAT ANY WAY TO THINK?
AND NOW, WE BEGIN OUR PROJECTIONS OF THE NIGHT SKIES.
THE LIGHTS WILL DIM HERE IN THE AUDITORIUM AS DUSK FALLS ALONG THE COAST

IT REALLY DOES FEEL LIKE NIGHT
IT'S MAKING ME SLEEPY
RUB
RUB
..AS THE SUN SETS AROUND 5:30
NOW FOR SOME MUSIC...
<NOD>
THIS IS THE STATE OF THE SKY AROUND 4:30 IN THE AFTER NOON...
..AS WE LOOK TOWARD THE SOUTH. ONE BRIGHT STAR BECOMES VISIBLE IN THE EAST..
SHAA..
SHAA..
WORRLE
WORRLE
I'M FINE, I CAN DO THIS!
GLANCE
I WONDER IF HISASHI NOTICED
WOW...


IT'S KIND OF LIKE A DREAM
..THE STARS TWINKLING ALL AROUND
..HISASHI NEXT TO ME
A NICE ATMOSPHERE SO ROMANTIC
HISASHI WOULD BE SURPRISED.. I BET
IT WOULDN'T BE BAD TO HOLD HANDS

DROP
BREATHE
.....
sigh

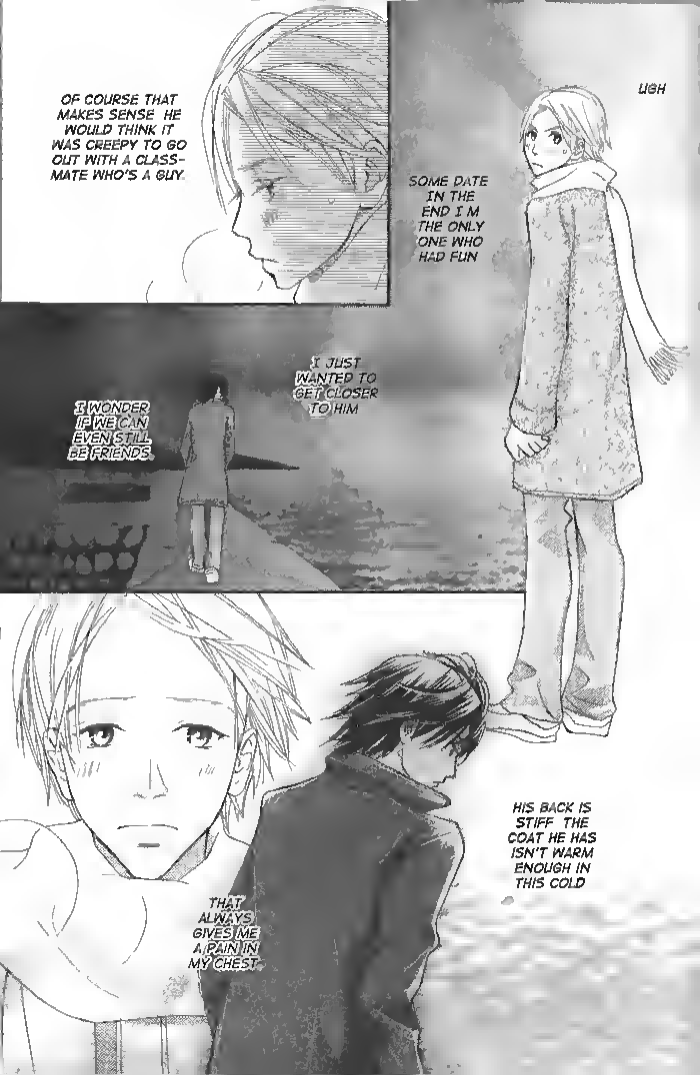
SQUEEZE
THERE'S SIRIUS, BELOW THE BELT OF THE CONSTELLATION ORION.
FIRST MAGNITUDE STAR SIRIUS, IN CANIS MAJOR, APPEARS THE BRIGHTEST IN THE SKY.

WASN'T THAT BEAUTIFUL?
YAWN
B--BUILL
CLATTER
EVEN THOUGH YOU MISSED MOST OF IT
N--NO I DIDN'T!
WELL, IT WAS KINDA COZY AND COMFORT-ABLE
YOUR SNORING WAS LOUD!
YOU'RE KIDDING RIGHT?

Weren't there two of you—where's Taichi?
Oh, I see
He went to the bathroom
THANKS FOR ALL THE HARD WORK.
OH THANKS
<CLUNK>
HEY, HOW'S THE CLEANING COMING ALONG?
YOU'RE FULL OF CRAP!
TAICHI TOLD ME YOU LIKE THIS KIND OF THING
WHAT, AREN'T YOU INTERESTED?
UH FOR ME?
UM, I THINK YOU MIGHT APPRECIATE THIS
IT'S A COMPILATION OF ARTICLES ABOUT THE STARS
A NEW PART IS ISSUED EVERY DAY.
HERE YOU GO.
HE'S MR. ROMANTIC
YOU KNOW HISASHI? HE'S ALWAYS LOOKING UP AT THE STARS, AND YOU'D BE SURPRISED AT HOW MUCH HE KNOWS ABOUT MYTHOLOGY TOO.
A PORTRAIT OF MR. ROMANTIC

COME AGAIN WITH TAICHI
BUT HAVE IT ANYWAY IF YOU'D LIKE
I WROTE IT, SO THIS IS A LITTLE BITTERSWEET, ♡
Ha ha ha!
UM... THANK YOU VERY MUCH
Mr. Romantic!?
UHH UMM...
HUH, WHAT IS IT? WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
YOUR UNCLE BROUGHT US DRINKS
It's milk tea.
THUD
THUD
THANKS FOR WAITING!
THUD
Hm?

I WAS LOOKING FORWARD TO HEARING ABOUT THE STARS TODAY
OH, IT'S CLOUDY
SHAA
SHAA
YOU WOULD HAVE HEARD IF YOU HADN'T BEEN GIGGLING OR SLEEPING
I HEARD THE FIRST PART!
UM, MARS SHOULD BE VISIBLE SOON TOWARD THE EAST?
right?
NOT LISTENING
MARCH
MARCH
MARCH
BUT TODAY THERE'S NOT EVEN A CHANCE


OF COURSE THAT MAKES SENSE HE WOULD THINK IT WAS CREEPY TO GO OUT WITH A CLASS-MATE WHO'S A GUY.
UGH
SOME DATE IN THE END I M THE ONLY ONE WHO HAD FUN
I JUST WANTED TO GET CLOSER TO HIM
I WONDER IF WE CAN EVEN STILL BE FRIENDS
HIS BACK IS STIFF THE COAT HE HAS ISN'T WARM ENOUGH IN THIS COLD
THAT ALWAYS GIVES ME A PAIN IN MY CHEST

I'D REALLY LIKE TO
I WANT TO SO MUCH
WHAT IF I HUGGED HIM? OR BETTER YET, KISSED HIM?
I can't. I just can't.
IS IT BETTER TO PUT YOUR TONGUE IN?
I MEAN, HOW DO YOU EVEN KISS?
BUT I CAN'T
WHEN SPRING COMES, WE CAN GO AGAIN
To the planetarium.
AND I'LL LISTEN PROPERLY THIS TIME

I'M SURE ON THAT DAY IT WILL BE CLEAR AND WE'LL SEE A SKY FULL OF STARS.
THEN THEN EVERYTHING I'VE WANTED FOR SO LONG WILL COME TRUE.
I'M NOT GOING AGAIN
HUH?
WH-- WHY NOT?
I MEAN NEXT TIME THAT IS...
WERE YOU BORED?
DO YOU WANT TO DO SOME-- THING ELSE?
NO. I DON'T

IDIOT,
HIGH SCHOOL KIDS CAN'T HANG OUT WITH MIDDLE-SCHOOL KIDS ALL THE TIME
PEOPLE SOCIALIZE PROPERLY AND HAVE AFTER-SCHOOL CLUB ACTIVITIES
IT DOESN'T MAKE SENSE FOR US TO SEE MUCH OF EACH OTHER.
HUH?
WHY NOT?
IN SPRING WE WON'T HAVE MUCH TIME TO SPEND TOGETHER
HISASHI WOULD BE WORKING IN SPRING.
AND COMMUTING TO A HIGH SCHOOL WITH COURSES HE NEEDED, SINCE OUR HIGH SCHOOL WAS JUST GENERAL EDUCATION.
BUT EVEN SO, DID THAT MEAN HE'D HAVE NO SPARE TIME AT ALL?
H--
HOW CAN YOU SAY SOME-THING SO

YOU WON'T COME SEE ME?
WITH CLUBS, AND SOCIAL-IZING, YOU DON'T PLAN...
...TO SEE ME AT ALL?
LET ME GO!
WE'RE DONE TALKING ABOUT THIS.
"...NOT TO SEE ANY MORE OF ME"
ANYWAY, DON'T BE STUPID.
IT WOULD BE BETTER NOT TO SEE ANY MORE OF ME.
NOT SEE HIM ANY-- MORE? WHAT WAS HE TALKING ABOUT?

WHAT'S GOING ON?
WAIT, HISASHI!
haa
haa
HISA-SHI...!

haa
haa
THUMP
haa
haa
I ... I DON'T UNDERSTAND ..
—TELL ME— WHAT'S WRONG? I ... I ... WHY DO YOU HATE ME?
WHY DO YOU CARE ABOUT ME ANYWAY?
LEAVE ME ALONE.

IT'S YOUR FAULT I GREW WEAK
I BECAME THE ONE WHO WAS AFRAID.
IF IT WEREN'T FOR YOU...
EVEN IF I WAS IGNORED OR RIDICULED...
...EVEN IF I WAS KICKED OR BEATEN.
I WOULD BE FINE ON MY OWN.
THINGS WILL EVEN GET WEIRD.
IF I DON'T GET AWAY FROM YOU,
SO HE DOESN'T HATE ME?
I'M NOT GOING ANYWHERE
SAME AS EVER.
HISASHI TOO...
...WAS THINKING THAT?
IF YOU WEREN'T AROUND...
...I'D BE REALLY WORRIED ABOUT HIM.

SO YOU WANT TO CUT YOURSELF OFF FROM ME
WITHOUT MY CONSENT
BEFORE I DO TERRIBLE THINGS TO YOU
I FEEL LIKE I NEED TO GET FAR AWAY
I CAN'T
DAYS MIGHT GO BY WITHOUT RUNNING INTO YOU
OR SEEING YOUR FACE
I'LL MEET NEW PEOPLE
WHO KNOWS...
...MAYBE WITH THE CHANGE IN ENVIRONMENT,
SO COME SEE ME
HISASHI, YOU IDIOT!

KISS ME
WH--- WHAT THE HELL?
IDIOT. CUT IT OUT.
COME ON, DO IT!
I REALLY LIKE YOU, HISASHI.
I WANT US TO BE TOGETHER
YOU'RE IMPORTANT TO ME
I'LL DO ANY-THING
I'VE ALWAYS, ALWAYS, WANTED TO HOLD YOU IN MY ARMS!
SILLY, YOU'RE A NORMAL KID
YOU JUST GOT CARRIED AWAY...
SO I'LL PRETEND I DIDN'T HEAR THAT.

WE HAVE TO GO BACK--
I CAN'T THINK ANY-- MORE
YOU DECIDE WHAT'S BEST
I DON'T WANT TO GO BACK!
I WANT TO BE CLOSER TO YOU
WHY?
HISASHI, WHY WON'T YOU LISTEN TO ME?
IS IT WEIRD THAT I LIKE YOU?
DON'T BE RIDICULOUS.
sob
hic
HOW ABOUT YOU, HISASHI?
DO YOU HATE ME?
hic
AM I CREEPY?

IF I DIDN'T LIKE YOU,
IT WOULD BOTHER ME.
WH-- WHAT ARE WE DOING?

IT'S COLD
WELL, IT'S WINTER, ISN'T IT?
YEAH THAT'S RIGHT I THOUGHT
I ALWAYS THOUGHT KISSING WOULD WARM ME UP,
BUT I'M STILL COLD
How embarrassing.
HISASHI, YOU SAID YOU LIKE ME?
DID WE JUST KISS?
WAIT, WHAT?
YOU REALLY ARE AN ALIEN FROM OUTER SPACE
WHOA,
WHOA,
OH, BE QUIET ALREADY!
I'm shy and sensitive
WE ACTUALLY KISSED!
HISASHI'S FACE SOFTENED A LITTLE WATCHING THE STARS

WOULD WE BE TOGETHER FROM HERE ON OUT?
COULD HISASHI BE HAPPY WITH ME?
I know!
NEXT TIME LET'S MAKE SURE TO CHECK THE WEATHER FORECAST
HUH?
IN SPRING.
WE'LL SEE A SKY FULL OF STARS.

冬の下／END

hmm hm hmm
星の下
UNDER THE STARS
hoshi no shita
HISASHI!

PRINCE SLEEPY-HEAD!
YOU KNEW I WOKE UP LATE, SO YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE WAITED FOR ME.
THIS IDIOT NEVER GIVES UP!
I WANTED TO SEE YOU
HM?
OR MAYBE YOU'D CALL ME A STALKER?
IDIOT,
I MIGHT--
WHAT?
I MIGHT BE LATE
DON'T WAIT FOR ME OR YOUR PARENTS WILL WORRY
HUH?
THAT'S ALRIGHT YOU'RE NOT THE ONLY ONE WITH CLUB ACTIVITIES.
HANDI-CRAFTS CLUB
WOULD YOU EVER HAVE GUESSED?

whoa!
HISASHI, YOU'VE GROWN SO MUCH!
I wonder if I have enough yarn!
YOU SNUCK UP TALLER AND TALLER
AND MEANWHILE I'VE ONLY GOTTEN WEIRDER SINCE WE WERE IN MIDDLE SCHOOL.
YOU'VE BEEN STRANGELY STINGY WITH THE KISSES SINCE THEN
YOU HAVE, YOU KNOW
THAT'S NOT TRUE AT ALL.

YOU'RE FINALLY LIVING ON YOUR OWN.
BUT YOU HAVEN'T LET ME COME TO YOUR PLACE
.....
TREAT YOU LIKE A CHILD?
WELL, SO...
SO
...DON'T TREAT ME LIKE A CHILD ALL THE TIME
THE OTHER GUY WHO'S LIVING THERE WORKS AT HOME
THERE'S NO BATH
AND THE WALLS ARE PAPER THIN
YOU CAN HEAR A TISSUE BEING PULLED OUT OF THE BOX IN THE NEXT ROOM
ARE YOU SERIOUS!?
Picky, picky.

tch
!
COME HERE JUST A SECOND
HISASHI?
HUH?

IT'S NO GOOD TO RUSH
YOU'RE IM-PORTANT TO ME, IDIOT

I--- YOU'RE STILL ONLY HALF-GROWN
OH.....
SHAA...
SHAA...
YOU'RE DISTANCING YOURSELF AGAIN
YOU'RE NAIVE, SO---
THEN WHEN'S GOOD?
...HISASHI IS STRUGGLING HARD
HE'S BEEN WORKING FOR SIX MONTHS,
WITH NO GRUMBLING OR COMPLAINING AT ALL.
HE'S TAKING IT SERIOUSLY.
I'M ALSO
...DOING MY BEST.

I'M STUDYING HARD.
SO I CAN BE STRONG ENOUGH TO WALK NEXT TO YOU ON MY OWN TWO FEET, HISASHI.
I'M SURE YOU ARE
Since you're an idiot on your own, Taichi.
Huh? What the hell?
I'm serious here!
Hey! Did you just use my given name?
Ha ha ha!

星の下／END

HIRAI-KUN JOINED OUR STAFF THIS YEAR AS AN INTERN
LET'S SPARKLE!
キラキラしてしよう
HASHIMOTO WILL FLIP!
HE'S A CUTE KID AND HE'S REALLY TAKEN TO ME
WHY WAS HE HIRED?
What about the credibility and dignity of our (tax accounting & consulting) office?
It's fine, it's fine
BUT HE'S WACKY
Now I'll make real
Whee! I did it!
THE REPORT IS READY!
LOOK, LOOK!
THE WHOLE THING!
WOW, THAT'S FAN-TASTIC
Thanks

Uhh...okaaay
I FIND HIM SOOTHING
MAYBE I'M STUPID, BUT I LIKE HIS BRIGHT SMILE
AND HIRAI-KUN IS ACTUALLY QUITE A WORKER TOO
BUT THEY MAKE PICKLES
AND THEIR MANAGEMENT IS NOT GREAT
THEIR HANDMADE COOKIES ARE REALLY DELICIOUS
They gave me some
YES!
THINK SO?
IT'S A GOOD COMPANY

It's a magnificent mismatch mash-up!!
YES, YES, BUT IT'S A UNIQUE PICKLE COMPANY!
It's very impressive!
THEY PUT DRIED PICKLES IN THEIR COOKIES!!
And yet they are so tasty!!
AREN'T THOSE COOKIES ROCK HARD?
THE HARD-NESS IS THE BEST PART!!
ON THE HEALTH FOOD SITES THAT I'M OB-SESSED WITH NOW,
ROCK HARD FOOD IS ALL THE RAGE!
They're good for a healthy diet if your jaw is strong
PACKED FULL OF YUMMY GOODNESS, (mail order)
WON'T YOU ENJOY THEM, HASHIMOTO-SAN?
Please always stay healthy.
SURE
THANKS
Oh, the sunset is so beautiful!
HIRAI-KUN IS NICE
HE BRINGS A SENSE OF OPTIMISM TO EVERY PLACE HE GOES

HE CAN EVEN STAND IN FOR ME WITH OTHER COMPANY CHIEFS
TAKING IT EASY
I NOTICE HIS EFFECTS ON THE ESSENCE OF THE COMPANY
EVERYONE ACCEPTS HIM RIGHT AWAY
AM I TAKING ADVANTAGE OF HIM?
CHAUFFEUR
KICKING BACK
SO THIS IS HASHIMOTO-SAN'S PLACE
HERE, DRINK UP
NO, JUST RELAX
COME TO THINK OF IT, THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I'VE HAD ANYONE FROM THE STAFF AT HOME
YOU MUST BE TIRED AFTER ALL THAT WALKING AROUND
TH-- THANK YOU, CAN I POUR YOU SOME?
ENTERTAINING AT HOME TO SHOW APPRECIATION
IT'S ON THE COMPANY

NO, I'M TOTALLY FINE
I like walking. And being with Hashimoto-san ♡
BUT I'M SURPRISED YOU DON'T SEEM VERY SOCIABLE AT WORK
OH, WELL, I ESPECIALLY LIKE WANDERING AROUND OUT OF THE OFFICE
I PRETTY MUCH LEAVE THE INTERNAL WORK TO OUR EXCELLENT STAFF
DID YOU ENJOY THE SITE TOUR?
YES!
DOING THINGS LIKE THAT...
...OR EVERYDAY WORK...
IT'S ALL REALLY EXCITING
AND I KNOW THAT YOU TRUST ME, PRESIDENT.

SEEING THE FACES OF THE FACTORY EMPLOYEES,
I CAN'T SAY ANYTHING IR-RESPONSIBLE
THAT'S WHY, THE LEAST I CAN DO
IS KNOW EVERYTHING I CAN ABOUT IT
BASED ON THE ADVICE I GIVE, A DECISION WILL BE MADE AS TO WHETHER THAT COMPANY SUR-VIVES OR FOLDS
SO HONESTLY, IT WAS A RELIEF TO HAVE YOU ALONG WITH ME
HASHIMO-TO-SAN...
THANKS FOR FERRYING ME AROUND
And sorry.

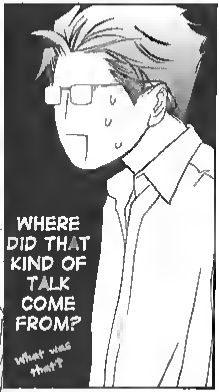
BUT ADORABLE HIRAI-KUN---
Sensei?
WILL ONLY BE AROUND FOR A SHORT WHILE
I'VE WASTED A LITTLE, NO, QUITE A BIT OF HIS TIME.
Yep
BUT YOU KNOW
SPENDING ALL YOUR TIME WITH ME
CUTS INTO YOUR STUDYING, HIRAI-KUN
IT MIGHT BE GOOD TO STUDY SOME OF OUR OTHER OFFICES
LIKE ADVICE FROM A WORLDLY SENPAI
HEY, HAVE YOU SEEN OUR ARCHITECTURE DEPARTMENT? SEEMS THAT MIGHT BE A GOOD PROFESSIONAL DESTINATION
I CAN PUT YOU IN TOUCH WITH AN ACQUAINTANCE I HAVE OVER THERE
HEY! WHAT'S WRONG?

HASHI-MOTO-SAN,
FOR THINKING OF ME.
TH--THANK YOU VERY MUCH.
NOTHING AT ALL.
HIRAI-KUN?
MAYBE YOU'RE NOT TOO ENTHUSI-ASTIC ABOUT THOSE IDEAS?
JOLT
HIRAI-KUN...
WELL, I'M GLAD
I'm very sorry.
really
very

IF YOU LIKE IT HERE, THAT'S FINE WITH ME.
I DON'T REALLY WANT YOU TO GO ANYWHERE
THOSE WERE JUST TENTATIVE SUGGES-TIONS
YEA… HUH?
UM, SO YOU KNOW WHAT I MEAN AND YOU'RE OKAY WITH IT?
IS IT ALRIGHT IF I ALWAYS LIKE YOU?
YEAH, SURE
YEAH, YEAH
CAN I STAY WITH YOU?
SURE
YOU KNOW, I LIKE YOU, HASHIMO-TO-SAN

BE—
BEING LOVERS.
OKAY WITH WHAT?

I'M GLAD YOU'RE ALRIGHT WITH MEN, HASHIMOTO-SAN
Heh heh heh!


WHERE DID THAT KIND OF TALK COME FROM?
What was that?

A lawyer, um...
A FRIEND OF YOURS TOLD ME ♡
UHH... ERR...
YOU MEAN THAT KIND OF TALK?
I'LL KILL SHIMU- RA
BAD FRIEND

HASHIMO-TO-SAN...

... IT SEEMS THAT ALL MY SPARKLING...
COMES FROM LIKING YOU...
...AND BEING NEAR YOU
IT'S VERY IMPORTANT...
...TO HAVE SPARKLE IN YOUR LIFE.
(SPARKLE IN YOUR LIFE)
人生のキラキラ
SPARKLE
SPARKLE
Fantasy

RUFFLE RUFFLE
The sparkling lingers—
YOU'RE AMAZING
AND SPEAKING OF LIKING,
CAN YOU TELL I FIND YOU APPEALING AS WELL?
Kiss
TH-- THEN

.....
BA-DUMP
BA-DUMP
hee...
AH!
COME HERE
I'LL TAKE SOME MORE OF THAT

MM...
NOT BAD.
NGH.....
NO!
NO?
MY HEART'S POUNDING
LET ME SEE
MY FACE IS BURNING
EVEN WITH A FACE SO SEXY HE'S NEVER DONE THIS?
CUTE, CUTE!
I'VE NEVER DONE THIS

T/N: HANDS ON THIGHS FOR "SEIZA," PROPER POLITE SITTING
YOU HAVE HOME-WORK!
YES!
YOU SEEM TO BE SENSIBLE
HOW-EVER...
UH,
THANK YOU.
DROP
BUT I CAN'T TAKE A SPARKLING PERSON..
...INTO MY ADULT FANTASY WORLD LIKE THIS
dazzle...
...WE BOTH NEED TO DAZZLE WITH PLENTY OF ADULT DESIRE
...IF THERE ARE -CERTAIN THINGS- YOU WOULD LIKE TO DO WITH ME...
Looks like we have a good boy.
I see!
I'll do my best!

PICKLE MAKER'S COOKIES
#1 ON WEBSITE
HUGE HIT!
Are you serious?
THANK YOU FOR THE ADVICE THAT DAY!!
NO, NO, THE CREDIT GOES TO—
—HIRAI, HE'S A BIG FAN OF YOUR COOKIES
END

誘う図書館

LIBRARY TEMPTATION

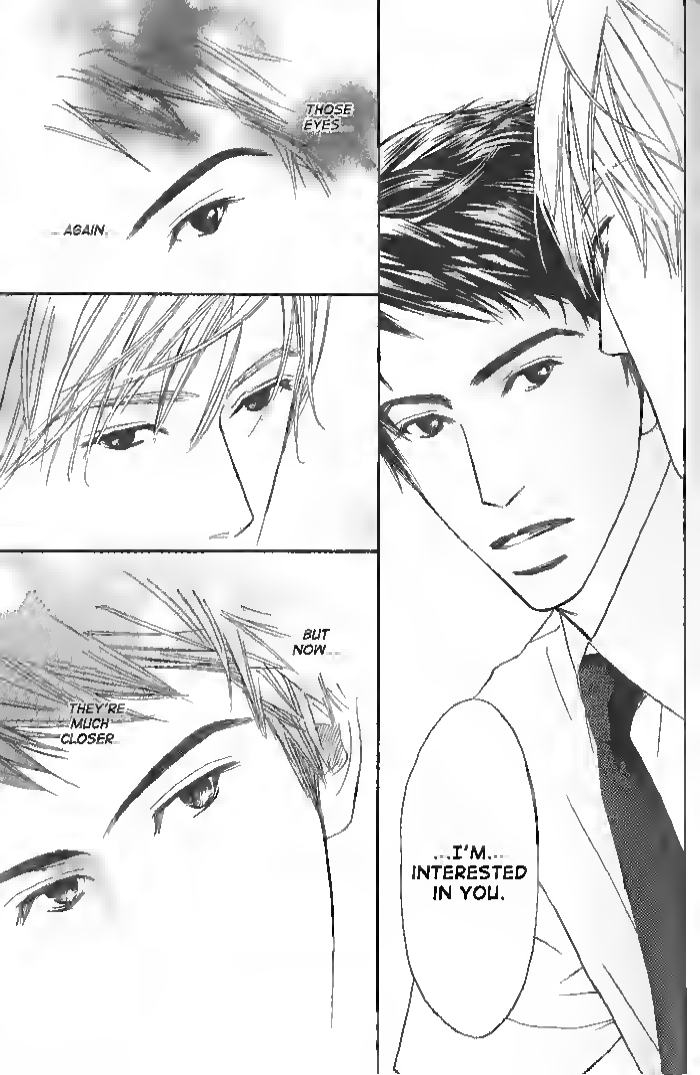
IF YOU WORK IN A SCHOOL, YOU KEEP YOUR HANDS OFF THE STUDENTS
IT'S THE FIRST RULE IN THE RULE-BOOK
LIKE A GOOD ADULT, I PRE-TENDED NOT TO NOTICE
SO,
WHEN I FELT HIM STARING INTENTLY AT ME FROM ACROSS THE ROOM,

AFTER SCHOOL LIBRARY DUTY
BUT THEN...
LIBRARIAN
THE TWO OF US ALONE IN THE EMPTY LIBRARY JUST BEFORE CLOSING
HE DOESN'T SEEM TO BE VERY TALKATIVE
HE'S AN ALL-AROUND HONOR STUDENT FROM CLASS TWO
IN THIS SITUATION
IT'S STIFLING, ACTING LIKE I DON'T NOTICE

NO, MAYBE IT WOULD BE BETTER IF I MADE IT CLEAR INSTEAD
I SHOULD
I—
IF ONLY HE DARED TO OPEN HIS MOUTH!!
I guess I understand why he would be susceptible
YEP, STARING AT ME AGAIN. HUH?
Wasn't he right here?
What?
FAR AWAY
遠
But it's quiet, so he heard me clear as a bell.
I'M NOT A TEACHER...
(I'm administrative staff.)
...SO IF YOU'RE LOOKING FOR SEX EDUCATION, FIND SOMEONE ELSE!

SO OF COURSE HERE AT A BOYS' SCHOOL I HAVE TO BE SCRUPULOUS
PLEASE BE ASSURED THAT I WOULD NEVER MAKE A PASS AT YOU
OH, UMM... I wasn't sure but I hoped so.
WELL, I DON'T KNOW IF YOU'RE AWARE THAT I'M GAY,
OH...
A PASS...
I'M INTERESTED IN YOU, SO MY EYES FOLLOW YOU
NATURALLY I LOOK AT YOU...
HIS CUTE REACTION IS A SURPRISE
HE TAKES THINGS SO SERIOUSLY

I SUPPOSE HE'S SIMPLY BEING HONEST
HOW CAN I BE SUPPORTIVE HERE?
TCH
YOU SEE, TODA, BOYS GOING THROUGH PUBERTY DEVELOP A HEALTHY CURIOSITY
YOUR SENPAIS CAN TELL YOU ALL THE GOOD STUFF
SAKIYA CHIHIRO-SAN...
IT WILL EASE YOUR MIND
TO HEAR ABOUT THE TRIALS AND ERRORS OF YOUR CLASSMATES

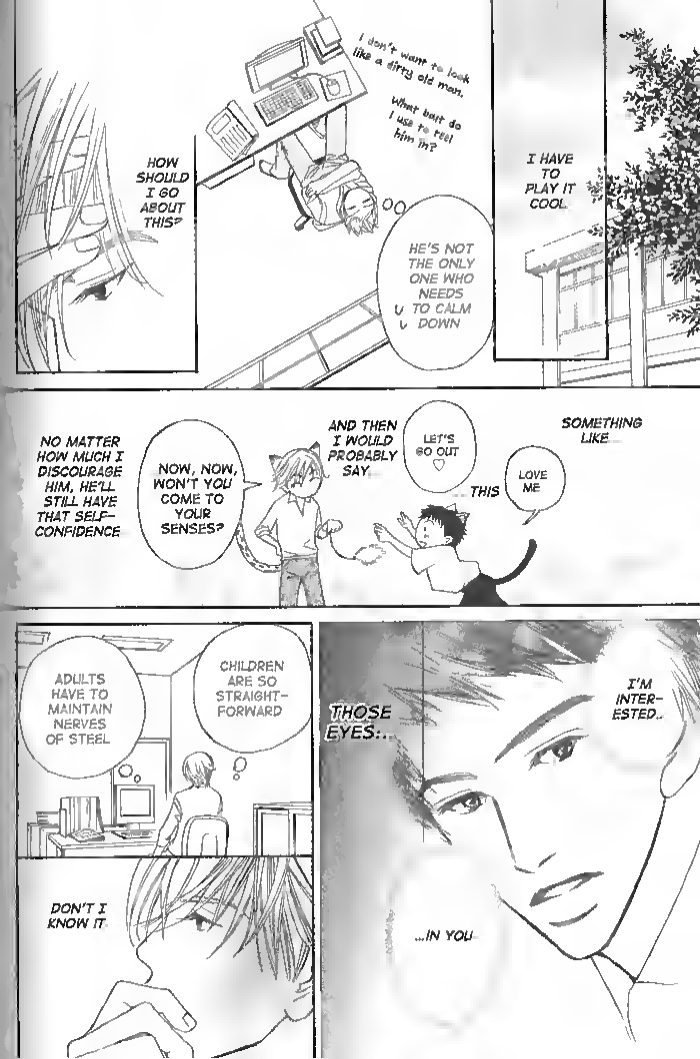

THOSE EYES
AGAIN.
BUT NOW
THEY'RE MUCH CLOSER
...I'M... INTERESTED IN YOU.

THAT
EASY THERE!
CROSSED THE FUCKING LINE

SAKIYA-SA---
MY BODY MOVED
.. ON ITS OWN
<CLATTER>
THIS CREA-TURE
WOULD BE DANGEROUS IF IT WASN'T PINNED DOWN
MM
SO I DID WHAT I HAD TO DO
NGH!

ahh...
ahh...
WHAT ELSE COULD EXPLAIN THIS REACTION?
Take care of this for me.
THEN...
THIS SEXY FACE CAN'T HANDLE ANY MORE TODAY

WE'RE NOT GOING TO HAVE SEX?
IDIOT.
YOU TAKE SOME TIME TO COOL OFF.
AND THINK ABOUT IT CAREFULLY.
NEXT TIME
...I'LL BE PREPARED TOO, IF YOU DECIDE THAT'S WHAT YOU WANT


I don't want to look like a dirty old man.
What bait do I use to reel him in?
HOW SHOULD I GO ABOUT THIS?
HE'S NOT THE ONLY ONE WHO NEEDS TO CALM DOWN
I HAVE TO PLAY IT COOL
NO MATTER HOW MUCH I DISCOURAGE HIM, HE'LL STILL HAVE THAT SELF-CONFIDENCE
NOW, NOW, WON'T YOU COME TO YOUR SENSES?
AND THEN I WOULD PROBABLY SAY...
LET'S GO OUT
...THIS
LOVE ME
SOMETHING LIKE...
ADULTS HAVE TO MAINTAIN NERVES OF STEEL
CHILDREN ARE SO STRAIGHT-FORWARD
DON'T I KNOW IT
THOSE EYES..
I'M INTER-ESTED..
...IN YOU

I DEFINITELY NEED TO BE IN THE RIGHT FRAME OF MIND TO DEAL WITH THAT BRAT
CLICK
UH-OH

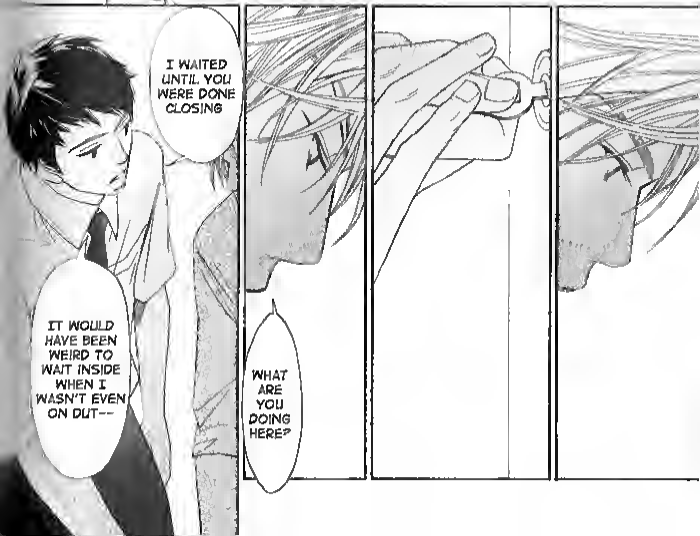
THAT LOOK IN TODA'S EYES...

HAS HE MADE HIS DECISION?
...IT'S CLEAR WHAT THAT BASTARD WANTS.
U his eyes
U say it all
UNTIL CLOSING
SCRAPE
IT'S NOT LONG
WE'LL BE ALONE SOON.
HE KNOWS

CLACK
STEP
HERE HE COMES
THE BASTARD LEFT!
SAKIYA-SENSEI, EVERYTHING'S READY FOR CLOSING.
I'll wait a little longer...
there
I'll be go out now
OH, UMM, THANKS FOR YOUR HARD WORK

OH COME ON. WHAT AM I SHOCKED?
HE JUST VEERED OFF TRACK MOMENTARILY
That was a close call!
GOOD THING THIS DIDN'T TURN OUT TO BE A PROBLEM
Ha ha...
I HAD HIM ALL WRONG.
NO, BUT NO MATTER WHAT HE DECIDED, HIS FACE WAS BEGGING FOR IT
DAMN, I...
...WANTED TO DO TODA SO BAD.
ALL WRONG.

I'LL GIVE UP ON TODA
I'LL TRY TO
KEEP YOUR HANDS OFF THE STUDENTS


I WAITED UNTIL YOU WERE DONE CLOSING
IT WOULD HAVE BEEN WEIRD TO WAIT INSIDE WHEN I WASN'T EVEN ON DUT--
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?

HUH...!?
WAIT...
WHOA!
<YANO
NOW...
<SLAM!

HOW WAS I SUPPOSED TO KNOW YOU WERE PRETENDING!?
BECAUSE I PRETENDED TO LEAVE?
UHH... ARE YOU ANGRY?
NO SHIT, I'M ANGRY!
SORRY
I DIDN'T EXPECT YOU TO BE MAD
I THOUGHT YOU MIGHT BE A LITTLE SURPRISED BUT...
TO GIVE TO GIVE UP ON YOU
Ah ha ha ha!
I HAD JUST THIS MOMENT MADE UP MY MIND...
SAKI-YA-SAN...
SAKI-YA-SAN?
whew ..

TODA...
...I DARE YOU TO TELL ME WHAT YOU CAME HERE TO SAY
I'M HERE...
...TO SEDUCE YOU
THAT'S TOO BAD, BECAUSE...

..THAT'S ALL I NEEDED TO HEAR
I'M ALREADY CRAZY ABOUT YOU
JUST HOW I PICTURED YOU
YOU'VE LOOSENED UP QUITE A BIT. IT DOESN'T HURT, RIGHT?
MM
IS IT OKAY TO MOVE A LITTLE?
AH!

YEAH, AND I WANT TO HEAR THEM LOUD AND CLEAR
I've only run in the rip.
COME ON, WHAT IS THIS?
THERE WE GO
PLUSH
PLUSH
UMGH
AH!
HEY,
MOVE YOUR HANDS OUT OF THE WAY, YOU'RE PAST THE ROUGH PART
No
I'LL MAKE
NOISES
<SNOVEY
YOU POOR BASTARD
YOU'RE ABOUT TO GET POUNDED FULL BORE
AH!
AH!
AH
ah!
ah!
SHIT LOOK AT YOU YOU'RE FUCKING LOVING THIS
TWINGLE
TWINGLE

AH!
AH!
AH!
AH!
AH!
COME HERE YOU ALRIGHT?
YEAH, IT IS.
THE AIR CONDITION-ING SHUTS DOWN WHEN WE CLOSE
IT'S HOT

SO? I WAS LOOKING FORWARD TO IT.
Yes!
Hee hee hee!
YOU EVEN HAD A TOWEL READY!
It's fluffy.
Heh heh.
WHAT'S SO FUNNY?
NO, WE HAVE TO CONTINUE
THAT'S NOT THE COM-PLETE COURSE!
THERE. AS YOU REQUESTED, A COMPLETE COURSE ON GAY SEX.
I HOPE YOU REMEMBER IT FONDLY.

NO WAY.
--THAT'S NOT DIFFICULT FOR AN HONOR STUDENT TO UNDERSTAND
HOW DID HE BECOME SO IRRESISTABLE?
WE CAN'T AFTER ALL--
BA-DUMP
BA-DUMP
I'M DEFINITELY NOT HOLDING BACK NOW.
WH--WHAT THE
CRAP I DEFINITELY DIDN'T HOLD BACK EARLIER
Whoa, it's damp.
END

恋う図書館

LIBRARY LOVE kou toshokan

That's done
whew
CLICK
TAP
TAP
TAP
WHOOSH
WHOOSH

HEH, I'M SURPRISED YOU LIKE ADVENTURE NOVELS
WHAT? YOU LIKE MEN?
THE HERO IS COOL
I WONDER WHO GAVE ME A TASTE FOR MEN
WHAT ARE YOU READING?
I USED TO LIKE THIS BOOK A LOT
IT MAKES ME FEEL NOSTALGIC TO SEE IT AGAIN
IT'S DONE
At least the visuals are eye-catching.
HEY IT'S LONG PAST CLOSING TIME, KID
DID YOU FINISH UPDATING THE HOME PAGE?
BEEP
HMM SO IT'S SIMPLY HOW YOU'VE BEEN TRAINED
YOU'RE A FAST LEARNER
YOU HAVE A GOOD BODY TOO
CHIHIRO-SAN
DON'T STOP

JUST ME?
CHI-HIRO-SAN...
ahh...
YOU'LL MAKE ME COME--
IT'S NOT FAIR.
SHUT UP AND ENJOY IT.

UNGH
CUT IT OU--
YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE DOING
IDI--
AHH
SHIT!
YOU IDIOT FEELS GOOD, BUT YOU DON'T HAVE TO DO THAT
SLURP
I'M AL-READY
I SAID
SLURP
SLURP

I'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO SUCK YOU
THE WAY IT SLIDES ON MY TONGUE FEELS NICE
CHIHIRO-SAN,
I DIDN'T KNOW THIS
JEEZ. YOU
...NO WAY AM I COMING BEFORE SOME 20-YEAR-OLD!
WOULD BE SO TASTY

THEN, LET'S COME AT THE SAME TIME..
WITH YOU INSIDE ME, CHIHIRO-SAN
WOW YOU
REALLY
I LOVE
YOU

YOUTH IS AMAZING.
ASTOUNDING ADAPTABILITY.
GROWING LIKE WEEDS,
AND ALWAYS GETTING RIGHT TO THE POINT.
IT'S STARTLING.
GET IN ME

DOES IT FEEL GOOD?
ah!
UNGH
NGH
ah!
ah!
SCHLICK
SCHLICK
ah!
YOU REALLY DO HAVE A GREAT BODY
CHIHIRO SAN

LET'S COME TO-GETHER
I SHOULD KNOW BETTER...

I DREAMED OF GOING ON ADVENTURES LIKE THESE.
THIS WILL GIVE YOU A LAUGH.
...BUT I'M COMPLETELY INFATUATED WITH HIM.
YOU COULD IF YOU SERIOUSLY WANTED TO
LIKE THE HERO OF A NOVEL?
YOU SHOULD
WHY "DREAMED?"

TODA WAS RAISED IN A POLITICAL FAMILY, AND WAS EXPECTED TO FOLLOW THAT PATH IN HIS FUTURE.
I HATED THE PERSON I MIGHT BECOME
I THOUGHT I WOULD BE ABSOLUTELY DETESTABLE
I DON'T KNOW MUCH ABOUT THE WORLD, OR EVEN IF TRUE HEROES EXIST,
OR WHAT I'LL BE ABLE TO DO—
REALLY, YOU'RE... VERY COOL.
YOU'RE COOLER, CHIHIRO-SAN
BUT NOW, LITTLE BY LITTLE, THINGS ARE GETTING INTERESTING
WHATEVER I DO, I'LL DO SERIOUSLY

YOU DON'T LOOK AT ALL LIKE A LIBRARIAN.
Ha ha! Well
BUT IN REALITY YOU'RE ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT YOUR WORK.
THE TEACHERS AND STUDENTS RELY ON YOU.
I DON'T KNOW ABOUT THAT.
I REALLY LIKE BEING A LIBRARIAN, THOUGH.
HERE IN THE LIBRARY, YOU CAN FALL IN LOVE WITH SOME HERO,
AND READ THE RECORDS OF THOUSANDS OF YEARS OF HUMAN THOUGHT
TO BALANCE THE BOOK EQUATION,
YOU GUYS CAN EVEN FIND YOUR FAVORITE EROTIC BOOKS.
YOU HAVE THOSE?
Of course. The history of man is the history of Eros.
It would be more unnatural not to have them.

AND THEY'RE ACCESSIBLE TO FOLKS WITH VERY LITTLE MONEY, TO HELP THEM DO THEIR BEST
LIBRARIES ARE PACKED FULL WITH PEOPLE'S THOUGHTS FASCINATING, ISN'T IT?
YOUR EYES...
...THEY'RE SPARKLING
YOU'RE ATTACHED TO THE LIBRARY, AREN'T YOU

JUST LIKE
...I'M ATTACHED TO YOU.
YOUR EYES
....CAPTURED ME TOO.

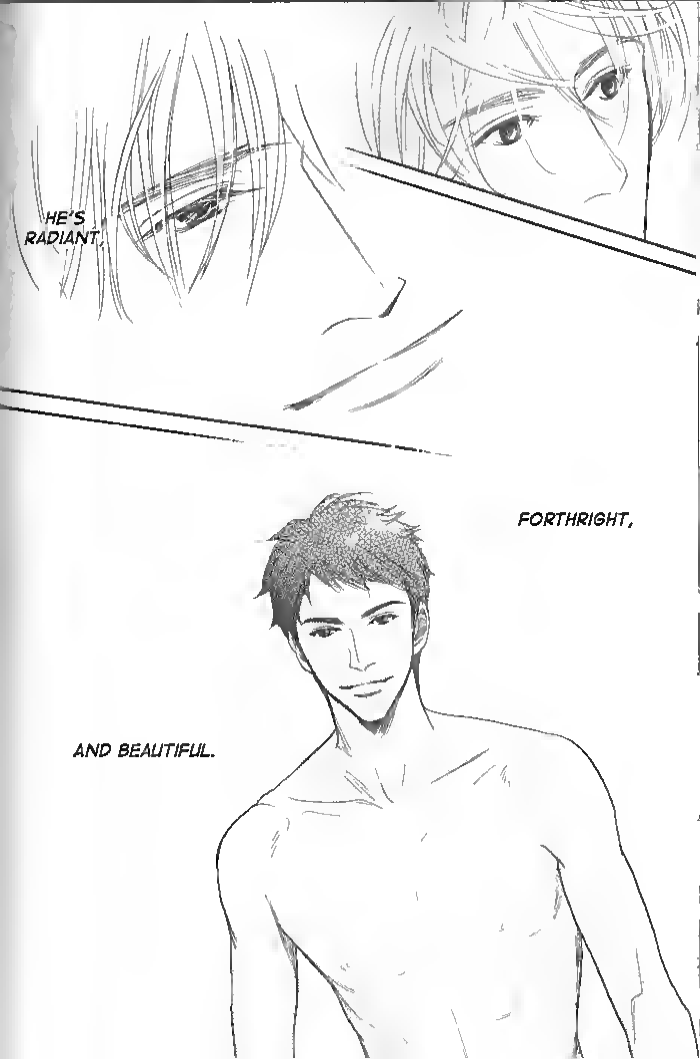
CHIHIRO-SAN,
SPENDING TIME WITH ME LIKE THIS...
ARE YOU SCARED?
YEAH, I'M SCARED
...IT'S DISGUSTING, GETTING INVOLVED LIKE THIS WITH A STUDENT
EARLIER, YOU SAID THOSE NICE THINGS ABOUT ME, BUT...
IT DOESN'T MATTER WHO SEDUCED WHO, I'M A POOR EXCUSE FOR AN ADULT
EVEN THOUGH I'M THE ONE WHO SEDUCED YOU?

EVIL DEEDS ARE EVENTUALLY EXPOSED...
SOMEONE'S BOUND TO FIND OUT, AND WHEN THEY DO, IT WON'T BE PLEASANT.
WHAT DO WE DO WHEN THEY FIGURE IT OUT?
NOBODY KNOWS ABOUT US.
HEH-HEH-HEH
EVIL DEEDS?
IT'S NO LAUGHING MATTER. WHAT IF YOU DID WANT TO BECOME A POLITICIAN?
I WOULD BE CONSIDERED DIRTY?

THEN WHAT HARM CAN IT DO?
NO
YOU'RE BEAUTIFUL, TODA
THAT WILL NEVER CHANGE
<T/N "KIREI" CAN MEAN BEAUTIFUL OR CLEAN/PURE.>
IT COULD AFFECT YOUR FUTURE

THIS RELA-
TIONSHIP IS
A NEGATIVE?

DON'T WORRY, I'LL SPEND MY LIFE PROVING IT TO YOU.
IT WILL NEVER BE A NEGATIVE FOR ME.
THIS RELATIONSHIP WITH YOU... I'LL BECOME STRONG ENOUGH FOR IT.


HE'S RADIANT,
FORTHRIGHT,
AND BEAUTIFUL.

I GUESS I HAVE NO CHOICE
BEING WITH YOU WILL BE AN ADVENTURE

恋う図書館/END

LINGERING TRACES

THE CHERRY TREES ARE IN BLOOM FOR THE SCHOOL ENTRANCE CEREMONY THIS YEAR
WOULD YOU LIKE TO GIVE A SPEECH, TODAY?
OH, SORRY, I DON'T HAVE TIME TO STAY FOR THE CEREMONY
IS IT ALRIGHT IF I TAKE A QUICK LOOK IN THE LIBRARY, THOUGH?
THE LIBRARY?
I WAS ON THE BOOK COMMITTEE IN THE OLD DAYS.

TODA?

IT'S BEEN A WHILE, SAKIYA-SAN.
I HAVEN'T SEEN YOU SINCE YOU WERE REAPPOINTED TO THIS SCHOOL.
LOOKS LIKE YOU'RE DONE WITH WORK FOR THE DAY,
CHIHIRO-SAN
LET ME ASK YOU SOMETHING.

WHAT HAPPENED?
YOU DON'T EVEN COME CLOSE TO BEING COOL.
YOU'RE BECOMING A DECREPIT OLD MAN.
IDIOT,
IT HASN'T EVEN BEEN A YEAR SINCE YOU'VE SEEN ME
IS THAT RIGHT?
EVEN IN THE OLD DAYS YOU WERE VERY SENSITIVE ABOUT YOUR ADVANCED AGE

RIGHT?
HMM?
BLUNT AS EVER!
Naturally!
PFFF

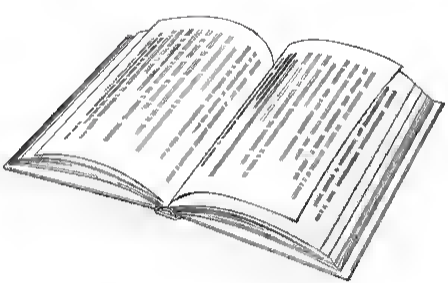
TODA...
ARE YOU HAVING ADVENTURES?

OF COURSE I AM.
DON'T WORRY, I'LL SPEND MY LIFE PROVING IT TO YOU.

I'LL BECOME STRONG ENOUGH FOR IT
WELCOME BACK
YOU'VE GROWN
YOU FILL THE SKY
THIS RELATIONSHIP WITH YOU

EVERY EMPTY SPACE
AND THIS FRAGRANT MOMENT

WHENEVER I CLOSE MY EYES, YOU'RE THERE



There's been a recession, hasn't there. The budget was cut.
There's no money to spend.
Makes me feel nostalgic...
The library doesn't seem to have changed at all.

I'M FAIRLY ORDINARY, YOU KNOW
JUST A BACHELOR LIVING ALONE
HEH, YOU LIVE IN A SURPRISINGLY ORDINARY PLACE
COFFEE, TEA, ALCOHOL... THE STANDARD STUFF.
SOMETHING TO DRINK?
BANCHA, HUH? OF COURSE I HAVE SOME.
YEAH, UM, DO YOU HAVE ANY BANCHA?
I'VE RECENTLY BEEN TOLD THAT I'M A DECREPIT OLD MAN
I LIKE IT MORE THAN I EXPECTED
Health first, right?

<T/N: BANCHA, THE LOWEST GRADE OF GREEN TEA, IS CONSUMED BY SOME PEOPLE FOR HEALTH.>

BLUB
BLUB
BLUB
IT TASTES KIND OF STRANGE
I THINK SO TOO
ANY THOUGHTS OF MARRIAGE?
SORRY TO SAY
NOT INTERESTED IN GIRLS?
NO

RELIEVED?
WELL...
I HAVEN'T MET ANYONE ELSE THAT I WANTED TO BE WITH
MIND IF I TAKE A LOOK?
GO AHEAD.
YOU WORK IN THERE?
YEAH

STUDYING HARD, I SEE.
<TAN BOOK TITLES
LEARNING ON THE WEB
THE NATION
POLITICS AS A VOCATION
FRANKLIN AUTOBIOGRAPHY
MATSUMOTO TRANSLATION
UNHEARD OF DAM DROPPING TALES
THE ORIGIN OF SPECIES (VOL. 17)>

TODA'S NOTES
Wouldn't you rather write a book?
I mean... a scroll?
Uhr yeahr well...
PLEASE DON'T READ THAT!
OH, YOU'RE WRITI--
THAT'S GOOD
EVEN THOUGH IT'S THE COMPUTER ERA, SOMETIMES I WANT TO READ BOOKS.

HEY, GIVE IT BACK ALREADY!
I'm kind of self-conscious about it.
Ha ha ha!
LET ME SEE IT.
I LIKE YOUR STRAIGHTFORWARD REACTIONS
AH!

<FLAP>

HEY
TOUCHING THAT BOOK REMINDS ME OF YOU

TIME...
SEEMS TO STOP

SOME-HOW...

THAT KISS DIDN'T FEEL LIKE TIME STOPPED.

HUH?

What do you mean?

Is that a good thing or a bad thing!?

UMM It's compli-cated.

WHAT!? U

花火
FIREWORKS
hanabi

CHIHIRO-SAN

I'm sweaty.
OBVIOUSLY I COULDN'T CHANGE INTO MY YUKATA
I KNOW YOU'RE BUSY
YOU DIDN'T NEED TO RUSH
ahh...
I MADE IT
ha hai
YOU'RE COOL ENOUGH LIKE THAT
BUT LET'S GO, WE DON'T HAVE TIME TO TALK ABOUT MY ELEGANT YUKATA
ahh...

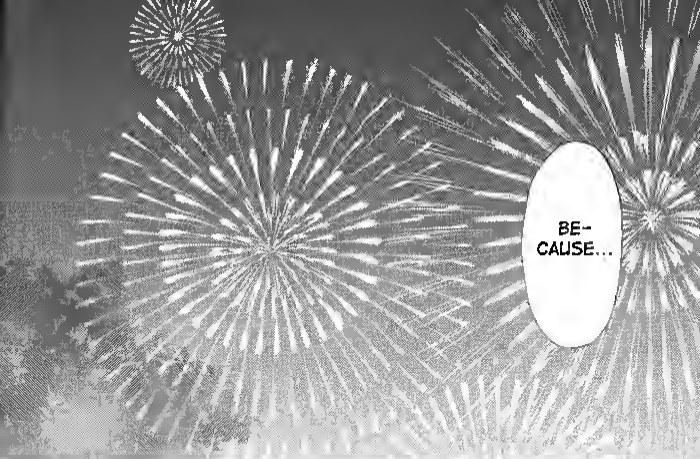
<KA-BOOM>
<VEEE...>
HMP
WELL, I'D SAY
IT LOOKS GOOD ON YOU
HOW BEAUTIFUL.
YEAH.

WHAT A CROWD
DECK SEATING RESERVED FOR XENTO CUSTOMERS
MAYBE WE SHOULD HAVE CALLED AHEAD TO RESERVE SEATS
AH, THE BOAT OUT THERE LOOKS INVITING
HUH? ARE YOU KIDDING?
GOOD FOR THEM!
BUT THAT'S TOO FANCY FOR US
I WOULD HAVE LIKED TO GO ABOARD, BUT IT'S NICE BEING ALONE WITH YOU
THIS WAY WE HAVE MORE FREEDOM
IF WE DO SOMETHING LIKE THIS...
NOBODY WILL EVEN NOTICE

GUTSY AS EVER, HUH.
JUST LIKE...
...THE OLD DAYS.
MY HEART'S RACING

BUT THE ECHOES ARE INTENSE—
—AND THE AFTER-IMAGE
PERSISTS
IT LASTS—
A LIFE-TIME
BEAUTI-FUL.
THEY BURST IN THE BLINK OF AN EYE
FLEETING

WILL THIS FEELING LEAVE AN AFTER-IMAGE?
IT DOESN'T MATTER.



..IT
WILL
NEVER
FADE

花火／END

あとがき

オリジナルでは　お久しぶりです。
少し前まで　榎田尤利　先生　原作で　マンガを　描かせていただき，大変勉強になりました。

昔のマンガの続きを描くにあたって　絵だけでなく　描きたいものすら　違っていたりして時は流れているんだなぁと　感じます。　今の方が　上手になっていることもあれば　昔の方がよかったなと　思える点もあり，あらためて　自分のマンガを見つめ直す　よい機会となりました。

そんなわけで　振り返ってみます

「イイ関係で　困ってる」
b-BOY Phoenix 4　性感帯特集　→　2007年1月発売　ということは　描いたのは　2006年ですね。「エロ大盛りで！」　とさいて　それなりに悩んだ　新人のわたし。
りんごの天ぷらは　長野の旅館で　バイトしてる時に　そこのおばあちゃんが　揚げてて印象的だったので。　アップルパイみたいで　おいしいですよ♡

「キラキラ　どうでしょう」
徳島の　おみやげで　買った　おからクッキーが　固くておいしくて。　なんか食べ物のことばかりですみません。

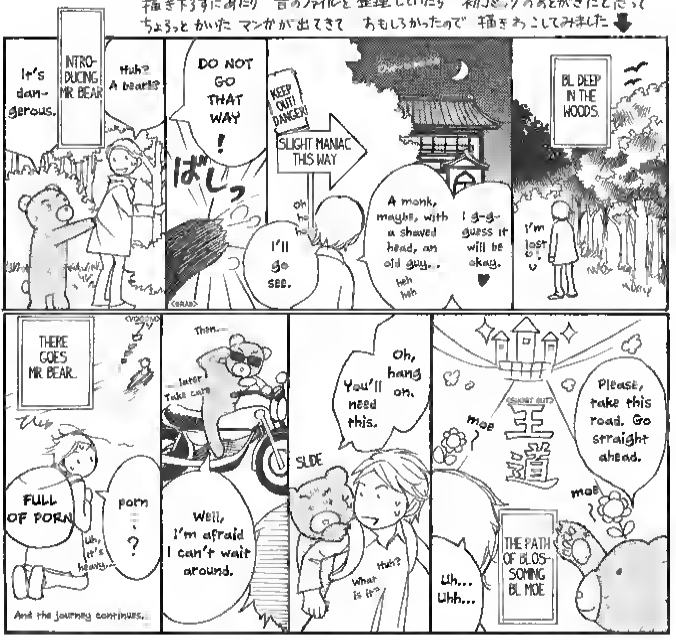
「冬の下」
b-BOY LUV(19)　オンリーワン特集　→　2006年1月発売　ということは　2005年に描いているので，もう完全に　初コミックスに　入っていても　おかしくない　時期ですね。

なっ…　なんか　キラキラしてる…。
今のわたしには　再現できません。

「誘う図書館」
b-BOY Phoenix 7　年の差　特集。
描き下ろしか　想像以上に　長くなりました。
「面影」のカットページ前まで　終わらせるつもりでしたが　担当さんの「ラブラブな続きを」という声に押されて　続きができました。
描いているうちに　もっと　いろいろ描けたなと　思いましたが　きりがないので。
この2人は　りハなかなぁ…　こう　もっと　絡みのシーンとか　入れた方が　よかったかしら。

…というわけで　気持ちエロスを　投入しようと思い，口絵は　大人な2人の　裸カットにしてみました。

描き下ろすにあたり 昔のファイルを整理していたら 初コミックのあとがきにと思って ちょろっと かいた マンガが出てきて おもしろかったので 描きおこしてみました



今となっては 坊主も木ヤシも 珍しくなくなりましたね。 月代はどうなんだろ？
現在は Bl も 本当にたくさんの 道が 地図めさんフあり、王道を 辞すのか 逆に難しいかも しれません。萌え咲く 道というのは 間違いないと思いますが(笑)

くまさんとの つき合いも長くなりました。デビューから ずっと 支えてくれています。本当にありがとう。

私は出会いに 大変恵まれていると思います。
出版社の 方々は みなさん親切で アシスタントさんたちも いい人ばかり。 デビュー間もなくからずっと 応援し続けてくださる読者様もいるし ツイッターや お手紙からも たくさんの愛情をいただいています。
みなさん 本当にありがとうございます

今回の コミックス作業は デビュー当時から 今をたどるような そんな作業でしたので しみじみして しまいました。 これからも 昔のストックはなくなりました。 これから先の 白いキャンバスを どう色つけて いくか 旅を続けてみたいと思います。

町屋 はとこ

<T/N I M SORRY I DIDN'T TRANSLATE THE MANGAKA'S NOTES I COULDN'T FACE THE WALL OF HANDWRITTEN JAPANESE D:>

ビーボーイコミックスをお買い上げいただきましてありがとうございます。
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BE×BOY COMICS
イイ関係で困ってる

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